

Howdy, all you EACers! Welcome to another great issue of P-W! I talked with Herb Silberman the other night and I told him that I thought that this issue of P-W was just about the best ever. His answer was: "That's what you say every issue".... which is true, but for a summer issue, I think this particular one is absolutely fantastic.... maybe it's because I've been kept busy as a bee the past two weekends and every night for the past two weeks, trying to put the copy together so that Mama Mimeo and Bill Parks would have some semblance of order and arrangement.

I won't tell you of the various goodies awaiting you inside, but there's lots of information and interesting reading....lots of new names and ideas....even an illustration of a Mickley medal done by one of our two recent staff artist appointees, Bruce H. Remick. Bruce did a beautiful job and promptly too, which is a lot better than some of our authors can do....we're not complaining about our contributors, mind you, we love them all, but it sure helps a lot when things don't all come in and pile up at the last moment. Not only do I have to re-type everything and get it arranged in order for submission to our typist and printer, but it has to be checked and edited....even deciphered if the handwriting is difficult, which it can't help but be, at times.

The cumulative index has been finished, but a delay in format arrangement necessitates postponing the final publicaion until at least September. Furthermore, it will no doubt cost about twice what was originally predicted....we'll check it all out, once the whole project is finalized, and we'll ask everybody who wants a copy to re-subscribe after we publish the exact charge in the September issue of P-W. Only the number of copies ordered will be published. No free copies will be available to anyone.

We are checking into the possible ways of cutting down mailing costs for P-W too....obviously, EAC can't stay in business and publish P-W when the postage costs almost equal the cost of publication. A bulk mailing rate was suggested by one EACer, but the Orlando post office tells us that we lack a sufficient number of mailings to qualify for that. Likewise, because we are an educational organization and incorporated, the same EACer told us that that would give us a reduced cost for postage....but the IRS doesn't seem to want to agree....so we're checking into that angle and exploring that possibility further. In the meantime, you'll still be receiving your P-W by first class mail....but the moment we find some way to give you prompt service at a lesser cost, we'll switch over, you can be sure....and if everything fails, we may then end up with 4th class mailings and hope that you get your September 15 issue before the November 15 issue deadline is reached. Have a good summer.

Regards,

Warren A. Lapp, Editor
and the Staff of PENNY-WISE

THE EARLY CENT REVISION - PART 9

The Early Cent Revision Committee Denis Loring, Chairman

This part of the revision will cover 1801 and 1804-7. 1802 is scheduled for the September issue, 1803 for November, and 1808-14 for January. Work on the final manuscript will begin right after ANA, and so we ask once more: if you have any information that you think we should know, please tell us. Write to:

Denis W. Loring
P. O.Box 161
Back Bay Annex
Boston, Mass. 02117

1801 - Market factor = 2

S-213 R3- Basic value \$1.25. 65-55-50-45-40-40. The reverse die is from the same hub as Reverse 0 of 1798. 65 Ryder; 55 listed; 50 listed; 45 new; 40 Deetz-ANS; 40 Ryder.

S-214 R4 Basic value \$1.50. 60-60-50-45-45-35. Often found blunted at point of bust, nose, and upper right reverse. 60 Clapp-Payne; 60 Dupont-Naftzger-NN 11/73; 50 Raymond-ANS; 45 Sloss; 45 Dupont; 35 several, including French 266-Hines-Downing, Hines.

S-215 R5+ Basic value \$2.50. 60-55-55-30-25-25. 60 Dupont; 55 Newcomb-ANS; 55 Clarke-Wurtzbach; 30 Brand; 25 several, including Hines.

NC1 R6+ Basic value \$8.75. 35-15-15-12-12-10. We can now account for fourteen pieces. 35 new; 15 new; 15 new; 12 new; 12 listed; 10 three; Naftzger-NN 11/73, listed, and new. The others are 8 (ANS), 6, 4, 1, 1, 1.

S-215 and NC1 have similar die injuries at S O. On the S-215, the injury runs through the middle of S and misses the O. On the NC1, the injury cuts the bottom of the S and hits the top of the O.

S-216 R2- Basic value \$1. 60-60-60-60-60-55. 60 Proskey-Hines-Earle-Newcomb; 60 Sawicki; 60 Zabriskie-Bement-Ellsworth-ANS; 60 Mehl-Clarke-Naftzger-NN 11/73; 60 Gallo; 55 NN 50.

S-217 R7 Basic value \$25. 45-40-25-20-15-12. One specimen is known with a rim break at ST. We list all known specimens. 45 Proskey-Hines; 40 Dupont; 25 new; 20 Hines-Wurtzbach-ANS; 15 Newcomb-ANS; 12 listed; 4 listed as 6; 4 previously known; 3 new.

S-218 R6 Basic value \$10. 35-20-15-12-10-10. 35 Newcomb-Clapp-ANS; 20 ANS-private collection; 15 listed, possibly Pierce; 12 Proskey-Hines; 10 several, including Dupont, French 263-Downing-Dochkus-Ruby-Superior 2/74, Gallo-Naftzger-NN 11/73.

S-219 R2 Basic value \$4. 65-55-55-50-45-40. 65 Proskey-Hines; 55 Ellsworth-ANS; 55 England-Cohen-Naftzger-NN 11/73; 50 new; 45 Newcomb; 40 several. In addition, the Williams sale lists a 60-coin, which may be the Newcomb piece.

NC2 R8 Basic value speculative. 15-10-8. Still the three known. 15 listed; 10 ANS; 8 Hines-Downing.

S-220 R3 Basic value \$1.50. 50-50-40-35-35-25. 50 new; 50 Brand-Picker-Sheldon-Naftzger-NN 11/73; 40 Proskey-Hines; 35 Bluestone; 35 French 254-Geis-Sloss; 25 several, including Dupont, Henderson, Downing; this latter one may be better.

S-221 R3 Basic value \$1.50. 65-65-65-60-55-45. 65 new; 65 French's 3/67; 65 Beckwith-Sears-Newcomb-Holland-Helfenstein; 60 Brand-Williams-Mathewson-Sheldon-Naftzger-NN 11/73; 55 listed; 45 several, including Matheson, NN 56.

NC3 R7 Basic value \$17.50. 12-8-8-7-7-5. Seven now known. Berry opposite center of E in ONE. 12 Kagin 8/64; 8 listed; 8 new; 7 listed as 8; 7 Smith-Naftzger-NN 11/73; 5 new; 4 new.

NC4 R8 Basic value speculative. Obverse new, pointed 1. Reverse H. Known since 1954, but the discovery was thought to be a clever alteration. Two are known now, and the existence of the variety is established beyond doubt. 10-4. 10 Dupont 344; 4 new.

S-222 R1 Basic value \$1. 60-60-55-45-45-40. 60 Wurtzbach-Brand-Hines-Gaskill; 60 Beckwith-Newcomb-Holland-Helfenstein-Naftzger-NN 11/73; 55 new, from England; 45 Gaskill; 45 Sheraton; 40, several, including Downing.

S-223 R1 Basic value \$1.25. 65-65-60-60-55-50. 65 Bement-Beckwith-Sears-Newcomb; 65 Johnson-Holland-Helfenstein; 60 French 255-Sheldon-Naftzger-NN 11/73; 60 listed; 55 Clarke; 50 several, including Deetz-ANS, ANA 64, Johns Hopkins.

S-224 R1 Basic value \$1. 65-60-55-50-45-45. 65 Ryder; 60 Brand-ANA '48-Helfenstein; 55 new; 50 Sawicki; 45 Macallister-Green-ANS; 45 Zabriskie-Hines-Downing-Naftzger-NN 11/73.

1804 - Market factor = 3

S-266 R2 Basic value \$10. 60-60-55-50-45-45. State III is commonest; state II is scarcest. 60 Beckwith-Clarke I; 60 Hines-Sheraton III; 55 Crosby-ANA '54-ANA '57 III; 50 Winsor-Ellsworth-ANS; 45 several, including Mills-Sloss-Naftzger-NN 11/73 I; Winsor-Gaskill III, Mathewson-Copley.

In addition, the Deetz sale (Stack's, 1946) lists an Unc., state II, of which we have no further knowledge.

1805 - Market factor = 3

S-267 R1 Basic value \$ 0.60 65-65-60-60-60-60. 65 Clapp; 65 ANA '54; 60 Green-Bluestone-Gaskill-NN 50-Landau; 60 Davis-Graves; 60 Grant. Several other 60s are claimed, including Davis-Collins-French-Clarke 109, Proskey-Hines-Downing-Clarke 108, and Schwartz.

S-268 R3+ Basic value \$ 0.75 50-45-40-40-35-35. Definitely not a rare coin. 50 Brand; 45 Wurtzbach, 40 Gaskill; 40 NN 48; 35 several, including RARCOA 5/74, NN 54. In addition, ANA '64 claimed a 50-coin, which, judging from the other coins in that sale, could be anything from VF20 upwards.

S-269 R1 Basic value \$ 0.60 70-60-60-55-55-55. One specimen has turned up with die breaks from the 0 of the date to the rim: Q, and from point of bust to rim. 70 Wurtzbach; 60 Helfenstein; 60 Allenburger 569; 55 Ryder; 55 Ellsworth-ANS; 55 NN 54.

1806 - Market factor = 3

S-270 R1 Basic value \$1. 65-65-65-60-60-60. 65 Wurtzbach; 65 Stack's 1/67, from England; 65 Parmelee-Smith-Beckwith-Mathewson-Helfenstein; 60 Winsor-Hall-Mathewson; 60 Beckwith-Morgan-Clarke; 60 Johns Hopkins. Other possible 60s are Wilson-Ryder-Merkin 10/66, and Newcomb 461.

1807 - Market factor = 3

S-271 R1 Basic value \$ 0.70 65-65-60-55-55. Central bust weakly struck, so that the hair looks more worn than it really is. 65 Sloss; 65 Smith-French 348-Clarke-Sheldon-Naftzger-NN 11/73; 65 Parmelee-Clarke-Taylor-Helfenstein; 60 Elder-ANS; 55 several, including Masters, Sternberg, Book-ANS, Bushwell-Wilson-Ryder-Futter-Merkin 10/66. Also, Higgys-Agnew and Pearl claim to be 60s.

S-272 R6- Basic value \$8. 55-50-30-25-20-15. 55 Hines-Clarke-Wurtzbach-Blueston; 50 French 345-Clarke-Naftzger-NN 11/73; 30 Williams; 25 Clapp-ANS; 20 Downing; 15 several, including Garrabrandt.

S-273 R1 Basic value \$ 0.60 70-65-65-60-60-60. Several now known with the ST rim break. 70 Price-Hazlett-Beckwith-Clarke; 65 French's 3/67; 65 Mathewson-Helfenstein; 60 several, including Terrell, Johns Hopkins, NN 56.

S-274 R4 Basic value \$ 0.80 65-45-45-40-35-35. 65 Hall-Brand; 45 Brand-Downing; 45 Hines; 40 new; 30 several, including Book-ANS, Straus.

S-275 R3+ Basic value \$ 0.70 60-50-50-45-40-40. 60 Ryder; 50 Wurtzbach-Gaskill; 50 Kagin-Bitler-Naftzger-NN 11/73; 45 new; 40 several, including Brand-Downing, Ryder-Hines-NN 50, Kreisberg 9/67.

S-276 R1 Basic value \$ 0.50 65-65-60-60-55-55. 65 Wetmore-NN 59; 65 Wurtzbach; 60 Davis-Graves-Helfenstein; 60 Bement-Hines-Clarke-Naftzger-NN 11/73; 55 several, including Gaskill. Also, there are several other claimants to MS60, including French 351, Sloss-Taylor-Schwartz, and Sheraton-Bitler.

(to be continued)

* * * * *

FRANKLIN'S SUGGESTIONS FOR A COPPER COINAGE FOR THE UNITED STATES

He lists in a letter some of the quaint and
homely mottoes to be used.

That remarkable American, Benjamin Franklin, the most versatile of all of our ancestors, was deeply interested in the proposed coinages for the United States, during the Revolution; and he wrote this very important letter from Passy (France), on the 2nd of October, 1779, to Edward Bridgen:

"Dear Sir: I received your favor of the 17th past, and the two samples of copper are since come to hand. The metal seems to be very good, and the price reasonable; but I have not received the orders necessary to justify my making the purchase proposed. There has indeed been an intention to strike a copper coin, that may not only be useful as small change, but serve other purposes.

"Instead of repeating continually upon every halfpenny the dull story that everybody knows, (and that it would have been no loss to mankind if nobody had even known) that George the Third is King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, &c, &c, to put on one side, some important proverb of Solomon, some pious, prudential, or economical precept, the frequent inculcation of which, by seeing it every time one received a piece of money, might make an impression upon the mind, especially of young persons, and tend to regulate their conduct; such as, on some, 'The fear of the Lord is the beginning of Wisdom'; on others, 'Honesty is the best policy'; on others, 'He that by the plough would thrive, himself must either hold or drive'; on others, 'A Penny Saved is a Penny Got'; on others, 'He that buys what he has no need of will soon be forced to sell his necessities'; on others, 'Early to bed, early to rise, will make a man healthy, wealthy, and wise'; and so on, in great variety.

Reverses Suggested Portraying British Barbarities.

"The other side it was proposed to fill with good designs, drawn and engraved by the best artists in France, of all the different species of barbarity with which the English have carried on the war in America, expressing every abominable circumstance of their cruelty and inhumanity, that figures can express, to make an impression on the minds of posterity as strong and durable as that on the copper.

"This resolution has been a long time forborne; but the late burning of defenseless towns in Connecticut, on the flimsy pretense that the people fired from behind their houses, when it is known to have been premeditated and ordered from England, will probably give the finishing provocation, and may occasion a vast demand of your metal.

"I thank you for your kind wishes respecting my health. I return them most cordially fourfold into your own bosom. Adieu.

B. FRANKLIN."

EDITORIAL NOTE (by Thomas L. Elder) - The latter part of Franklin's letter refers to Governor Tryon's expedition into Connecticut, when he and his 2,000 British burned and plundered New Haven.

* * * * *

Milton B. Pfeffer recently came across the article which has been reprinted above and he called it to the Editor's attention. Both thought that it would be of interest to the EAC membership. The article first appeared in THE COLLECTOR'S NOTES, Volume III, No. 2, pp 1-2, March, 1928. This numismatic journal was published by Thomas L. Elder, President and Treasurer, The ElderCoin & Curio Corporation, 8-10 West 37th Street, New York City. With acknowledgement and thanks to the late Thomas L. Edler, PENNY-WISE has reprinted this article in full for the interest of all EAC members. The Editor wishes also to thank Milt Pfeffer for finding the article and for providing us with a copy so that it could be reprinted.

* * * * *

THE RUMORS OF MY DEATH ARE SOMEWHAT PREMATURE

"As many EACers know, I recently sold most of my collection (out of 327 pieces, I retained 12) to Bob Shalowitz of Baltimore. The reasons for my selling are not easily explainable; in fact, they're not completely clear even to me. Suffice it to say that it seemed like the thing to do at the time.

The rumor that I wish to dispel is that I have stopped collecting. How could I? For me, the early cent disease has long since become incurable, nor do I have any desire to effect a miraculous recovery. Only the symptomatology has changed. Instead of trying to assemble a complete variety collection, I am simply acquiring individual pieces that strike my fancy. Rarity, color, and charisma are my guidelines, and I have no long-range goal whatever.

When one collects large cents, one also collects large cent collectors - as correspondents, sources of information, trading partners, and most of all, as friends. Before too long the friendships start to supercede the coins themselves as sources of pleasure and satisfaction. In the nine years I have been collecting large cents, I have had extraordinary luck in assembling my variety collection. I have been even more fortunate, though, in developing friendships with cent collectors - friendships upon which no dollar value could ever be placed, and which linger long after the coppers that helped forge them have gone on to other homes. To paraphrase Kipling:

A penny is only a penny, but a penny collector's a friend.

See you at ANA!

Denis Loring."

* * * * *

DIALOGUE ON AN OLD ENIGMA

Burton E. Ebert and John D. Wright

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Herewith is an excerpt from a letter written by Burton E. Ebert to John Wright, regarding an 1812 cent which he had forwarded to John for an opinion. John's answer is then quoted verbatim. Although photographs of the obverse and reverse of the coin are included in P-W's writeup, it should be remembered that the cent is of low grade and the photos, much less the off-set reproduction of them, are of little help in ascertaining the true nature of Ebert's query. In a telephone call to John and Mabel Ann Wright, they provided the Editor with a brief verbal description of the coin, as follows:

"The coin is the 1812 S-288. Its surfaces are rough, black, and highly eroded. The coin probably graded VG, possibly F, before it was buried and re-discovered. The obverse shows a strong date. Outline of Miss Liberty is weak, especially on the left, although more details are visible on the coin that the plate would indicate. The obverse surface is very dark and extremely pitted, with multiple, raised lines traversing the surface in all directions. The lines are close together and are on top of the surface, giving it a weird appearance. No extra medal has been added. The coin feels very rough to the touch. The lines on the coin are similar to those sometimes employed by the Mint in cancelling a die so as to prevent its further use. The reverse surface is also dark, rough, corroded, and badly pitted, but there are no scratches or lines as seen on the obverse surface. Again, the legend is weaker on the left side of the piece. ONE CENT and AMERICA show up fairly strongly, as does the wreath, especially on the right side."



Ebert wrote: "I will undertake to tell you the whole story of the 1812 cent, as I know it. The story appears to have begun about twelve years ago, while its owner was living in Washington, D.C. On weekends he wandered around the countryside with his metal detector. Thusly, he came upon an abandoned farm in Virginia, where, in a space approximately ten feet square, he found around 150 large cents, all dated prior to 1818. Being interested only in modern U.S. coins and being totally ignorant of large cents, he took them with him to display at the Cheverly Coin Club (just over the line in Maryland), of which he was a member."

The owner-finder was particularly intrigued with this particular 1812 cent because of its unusual markings plus the fact that no one could offer a reason or a cause for the markings being there. He carried the coin around loose in his wallet for about ten years. One time he took it to the Smithsonian Institute, where the curator ventured that the piece was a genuine coin but he could give no explanation and suggested that he donate the piece to them for their collection. He even sent it to COIN WORLD's 'Clearing House', but Jim Johnson never mentioned it in his column nor did he ever run a photograph of it.

The wife of the owner-finder had been a secretary for a number of years to Eldridge Jones, so he too was shown the coin and he also had no comment. The owner-finder mentioned that this year he planned to accompany Jones to the ANA convention in Miami this August - with the coin. I think that you can understand how this obsession has built up in him over the years.

The owner-finder moved here in my neighborhood in Florida about five years ago. He carried the coin with him constantly and showed it to anyone who would look. This is how he met one Edward Black. Black had organized a small coin club out of the remnants of one which had folded here some years ago. I joined the club to be of whatever assistance that I could; and through Black, I met the owner and obtained the coin.

Black has been a member of ANA since 1956, used to be coin dealer in Demarest (N.J.), is an exhibit judge for ANA, and claims to have sold a lot of coins to Herb Silberman in the past. The owner-finder has no opinion about the coin, places no value on the cent (although one dealer did offer him \$30. for it), and he doesn't have any intention of selling it. All he wants to know is how it was produced, under what circumstances, and by whom. After hearing me talk about EAC and P-W, he thought that the club might like to write it up, distribute the knowledge, and/or publish its findings, especially if the cent does have some value, is unique, is a new variety, or whatever.

To be sure, it is possible we're making a mountain out of molehill. As I look at the coin, I wouldn't give the owner a nickel for it, but since no one has ventured an opinion or said that he has seen a coin like it before - and not being as knowledgeable as you - I decided to ask.

I have had possession of the coin for some months now and also have shown it to a number of people including John Pittman (ANA Governor) who at one time had an amazing collection of large cents; Cecil Moore (ANA '53); P. W. Mayers (ANA '60), a former gold expert and now owner of a currency museum at Highlands, N.D.; Fred Andrews, a former EAC member who sold his large cent collection for gold about three years ago; and Charles Rinehart, a present EAC member. About the only comment that was offered was "Never saw anything like it." Rinehart ventured that the markings might have been made with a welding tool.

That about does it for this 1812 cent. Now you look!"

Wright replied to Ebert, as follows: "I am convinced that the coin is genuine and of contemporary origin to its date. The piece is quite eroded, and its 148-grain weight is entirely consistent with its low grade. Examination at 30x stereo shows that the 'lines' are indeed raised, do not result from cuts, scratches, or damages on the coin, and are of the same fabric as the rest of the coin. They have not been 'added' to the coin in any way. It is my opinion that the entire coin except the 'raised lines' has been eroded. Several items support this contention:

1. Dies are not 'cancelled' in or around 1812. They were used when usable, regardless of the date they bore; and were melted or sold for scrap when no longer serviceable. Not until around the 1850's were dies cancelled and systematically destroyed.
2. A 'cancellation' would consist of fewer and heavier marks than found on this coin.
3. The surface of the coin has been totally eroded away. The smooth 'skin' of a naturally-worn cent is totally gone. The weight, at 20 grains below new, is further evidence of this. The 'raised' lines thus are not higher than the original surface of the coin.
4. The dies exactly match Sheldon 288 - no other obverse of 1812 and no reverse of 1808-1835 exactly match the coin. Occasional dies which found their way out of the Mint did not survive as pairs. The cent 'restrikes' of 1804 and 1823 are examples of 'best available pairings'. The S-288 obverse paired with the S-288 reverse would truly be incredible under such circumstances if the piece were a restrike.

As to how the marks came to be where they are, let's examine a few of the alternatives:

1. Die cracks: there are too many and the pattern is wrong for die cracks. Were they such, the die would have dribbled in tiny chunks out of the press, long before this coin could be struck.
2. Die scratches: this is the most obvious explanation. It is supported by the fact that the die state appears rather late for both dies. However, the coin is too corroded to say positively, and if they are die scratches, why has only a single example turned up? Surely the Mint would not have used such a die, and an outside source would be hard-pressed to come up with the proper mating.
3. Areas protected by residue while the coin eroded. This is the explanation I prefer, although I would find it extremely difficult to defend. The 'lines' are quite fine, so that any protecting residue would have to be not only impervious but also laid in narrow streaks, beginning or ending in mid-field without pattern. A possibility could be scratches in the coin which held the protector (such as lacquer), while the unprotected surfaces corroded away.
4. Metal laid onto the coin in some manner. Close stereoscopic examination rules this out.

5. Cuts, with one lip of the cut elevated. Again, examination at 15x and 30x rules this out.

Does any other EACer want to venture a guess? Maybe someone else has a more plausible excuse for such a coin as this. Let's hear from you if you can help!!"

* * * * *

GENA TO MEET IN NYC IN SEPTEMBER

Jackson and Roger Storm are chairmen of the 12th annual GENA convention to be held at the Hotel Americana in New York City from September 18-22, 1974 and they have forwarded Herb Silberman the tentative program of events.

An EAC regional meeting has been scheduled for Thursday evening, September 19, at 7 P.M.

GENA will sponsor an auction in Albert Hall of the Americana Hotel, to be held each night, September 18, 19, and 20, at 7 P.M. and at 1 P.M. on Saturday, September 21. The coins to be auctioned will be on display in the Americana Suite on Wednesday, September 18, starting at 12:01 P.M.

The bourse and exhibit areas will be open to the general public from Thursday through Saturday, September 19-21 at 10 A.M. to 9 P.M. and on Sunday, September 22, from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.

If you wish any additional information on the above, please contact Jackson C. Storm directly, at 10 Manning Road, Glen Cove, New York 11542.

* * * * *

HELP!

HELP WANTED!

HELP!

"In the past, whenever we've had an EAC get-together here in Miami, I've counterstamped junk large cents and passed them out to EACers in attendance as a memento of their visit. I've finally run out of culls, and with the ANA convention coming up in August, I'm appealing to all EAC members: IF YOU HAVE ANY SLICK, HOLED, BENT, SCRATCHED, JUNK LARGE CENTS WHICH YOU'D BE WILLING TO CONTRIBUTE TO THIS WORTHY CAUSE, please send them as soon as possible! Many thanks.

Thomas P. Wolf
420 NE 7 Ave.
Hialeah, Florida 33010"

(To refresh your memories, Tom Wolf is the Southeast Regional Chairman for EAC.)

* * * * *

WOULD YOU BUY THE COIN?

Phil Wagner

The following is a questionnaire which is quite a bit different from the usual such type that we have offered here in the past. Phil Wagner has carefully described twenty different lots of coins. Each coin, by itself, presents a particular problem which might (or might not) influence your judgment or decision to purchase it if you were given the chance. Phil would like to know how you - and you alone - would react. Simply list the numbers from 1 through 20 on a postal card or letter sheet, and mark after each number either "yes" or "no". Your answer will indicate to Phil whether you would or would not be a potential buyer for that particular item.

Phil promises to tabulate the results and report them in the next issue of PENNY-WISE. He also hopes to put together some generalizations regarding the penny-buff and how he might respond to the possible sale of such problem specimens. The results could be very interesting as well as revealing!!! Let's try it and see!! How about it? Will you help?? Here goes-----

1. Item one is a Colonial copper of R6 rarity. Unfortunately, it bears a conspicuous attempt at holing, which mars the obverse at 12 o'clock. This otherwise Fine coin is priced as a common variety in VG grade.
2. Among a selection of half cents is a fairly common Cap variety. This coin is a nice example of a defect-free F12. It is, however, graded and priced as VF.
3. Also shown is a Late Date half cent which probably is MS. Now "whizzed", this piece is offered and priced as AU.
4. The next specimen is that of a 1793 S-8 Wreath cent which has a sharpness of VF but is a black-brown in color and is covered evenly with a light porosity. The coin is graded as VF and priced as VG. Would you care to own it?
5. This Early Date cent is truly graded as Fine. Its smooth, somewhat darkened surface is nearly defect-free but its color has a greenish cast. The coin is not a particularly rare variety.
6. 1797 S-121 with a gripped edge. Its obverse is medium brown and a full VF. The reverse is slightly lighter in color and just about F15, with a scrape which has obliterated two letters of the legend. The coin is marked as "third reverse, stems, plain edge, VF".
7. The coin is a Sheldon variety in the range of R3 to R4 and is problem-free. Graded as VF, this F15 coin is a variety for which you've been searching for at least two years.
8. A fairly common variety of 1803 shows up. Its medium brown obverse is at least VF 30, and the reverse likewise, except for reddish material in and

around four or five letters of the legend. This coin is priced according to what the GUIDE BOOK lists for VF.

9. This 1805 large cent has a walnut-grain smooth surface, except for a few (less than six) small pits near the rim in the obverse field. The coin is graded as Fine and priced as Fine.

10. An R1 to R5 large cent, obviously just cleaned, to the point where all the natural oxides and coloration have been removed. The coin may or may not have been polished. The important point is that there is little reduction in price from a coin of like variety which has been naturally toned and colored and not cleaned.

11. Some Turban Head cents are unequally struck, obverse to reverse. If you were offered an 1809 with nice color and good surfaces which graded F obverse and VF reverse and was split-priced between F-VF using GUIDE BOOK estimates, would the coin go home with you?

12. This coin is an 1816 N-1, although it has been mis-attributed as the 1816 N-2. A minor edge bump is noticed. The coin grades at least Fine. However, it is priced 15 to 20 per cent over the book value for an 1816.

13. Included in a small lot of Matron Head cents (6-10 coins) is a very scarce variety of 1822 cent in Fine. Would you purchase the entire lot at near book price to obtain the coin you want?

14. We now have a sharply struck cent from the early 1830's which is called and priced as MS. The piece is almost completely purple in toning. We know the current market factor in pricing for this coin and it is 25 to 50 per cent over GUIDE BOOK.

15. Next is an 1841 large cent which shows no evidence of actual wear but is a glossy black in color. Its price is about GUIDE BOOK for an Uncirculated 1841.

16. After examining a group of average-looking Late Date cents, you find an 1844 N-2, the pseudo-overdate 1844/81. The coin is a full Fine and is priced for the normal date.

17. 1849 N-8b - an interesting coin. The specimen is a light, almost golden-brown AU. The reverse plainly shows the doubling; but in this particular die state, the overdate does not show. It's a nice coin - a little expensive for an AU specimen, but not outrageously so. Do you want to buy it?

18. Another pseudo-overdate, the 1851 N-3a, turns up. This coin is a nice XF40 in all respects, and is priced at full GUIDE BOOK XF.

19. You have a friend who collects rim breaks; and here is a coin, either common or rare, which you don't remember seeing in his collection. The coin is a pleasing VF and is priced as a VF coin. The rim break is of no interest to the present owner. Would you buy this coin for your friend if you aren't certain whether or not he already owns one?

20. As a large cent specialist, you are aware that certain varieties have weak areas where the designs and/or letters aren't properly struck up due to damaged dies or planchet configuration. If you saw such a variety, graded without respect to that particular characteristic but is in fact over-graded - e.g. a 1797 cent with partial deatures, graded as VF, priced and sold as F, but considered by most specialists to be VG - would you still want to buy the coin?

Your prompt reply by postal card or letter will be most appreciated. If you would care to comment further on any of the problems which you have in purchasing coins, I would like very much to have your "food for thought" and will mention such comments when I compile the general results of this exercise.

Answers may be submitted unsigned, although your signature would be appreciated. Anonymity of answers will be respected if this is requested.

Please send your answers and comments to Phil Wagner, P. O. Box 19204, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46219. All replies should be received on or before August 15 to be included in the final tabulations.

* * * * *

LOUIS C. SASS ASKS FOR HELP FROM THE EAC MEMBERSHIP

In a recent letter to the Editor, EAC member Louis C. Sass said:

"First, I'll express my thanks for the 'answers' published in PENNY-WISE last year to my question regarding the origin of those interesting names 'Silly Head' and 'Bobby head' used for those two well-known varieties of 1839 large cents. The answers clearly established that those intriguing names had been used as far back as the 1860's, at least; but just why those exact names were chosen to identify those particular coins is still somewhat of a mystery to me. Even so, I learned by that exchange of ideas, thanks to PENNY-WISE and to those EAC members who responded.

Now, I find myself wishing that some of our more experienced and knowledgeable members would jot down a paragraph or two for P-W which might help us other members to take better care of the coins that we have in our collections. I'm not talking about fire and theft. Rather, I'm talking about abrasions, discolorations, corrosion, etc. Is it best to keep one's coins in 2x2 envelopes, for instance? Do those little flanneline inserts inside the 2x2's help? Some months ago, I got one of those special #4 brushes from Gordon Wrubel (again, thanks to P-W), but how about that special solution called CARE? Is CARE perfectly safe to use? Or is the xylol, which Dr. Sheldon mentioned, better?

Briefly, I'd welcome an up-dating of Dr. Sheldon's few paragraphs in PENNY WHIMSY on taking care of coins - just as much as I now welcome the up-dating of the Condition Census and the rarity data that are coming along."

* * * * *

NEW MEMBERS

P-W and EAC are happy to welcome the following new members into the organization. No listing was published in the last issue because of the limited space.

- 431 Larry Briggs, 2403 Lakewood Avenue, Lima, Ohio 45805
- 433 William K. Raymond, 18A - 4th Street, Medford, Mass. 02155
- 435 Billie Johnvin, 18150 Sherman Way, Reseda, California 91335
- 436 Bernie Weisburgh, 79 Pleasant Avenue, Burlington, Vermont 05401
- 437 James L. Holman, 925 East 7th Street, Rolla, Missouri 65401
- 438 Phillip D. Horner, 918 East Cherry Street, Blanchester, Ohio 45107
- 439 Roger W. Doran, Birch Point, West Bath, Maine 04530
- 440 Dean Pearlman, 3415 Yale Avenue NW, Canton, Ohio 44709
- 441 Johnnie E. Dillow, 227 Sioux Road, Bristol, Virginia 24201
- 442 Alfred D. Hoch, 225 Willow Avenue, Somerville, Mass. 02144
- 443 Ellen R.ENZler, 4858 Dempsey Avenue, Encino, California 91316
- 444 Ronald John Guth, P.O. Box 13192, St. Petersburg, Florida 33733
- 445 Gene C. Braig, P.O. Box 965, Elyria, Ohio 44035
- 446 Jesse Iskowitz, P.O. Box 183, Mt. Sinai, N.Y. 11766
- 447 Michael A. Tramte, 2106 E. Woodstock Place, Milwaukee, Wisc. 53202
- 448 Richard Urbon, 1468 Elizabeth Street, Crete, Illinois 60417
- 449 Fritz Weber, Rte. #2, Emmaus, Pennsylvania 18049
- 450 Douglas Winter, 360 East 65th Street, New York, N.Y. 10021
- 451 Bruce Harris, P.O. Box 215, Lumberton, N.C. 28358
- 452 Kenneth E. Noble, 965 Mueller Road, Warminster, Pennsylvania 18974
- 453 Sgt. Steve A. York, P.O. Box 3376, Beale AFB, California 95903
- 454 Roy C. Pollitt, 2405 Greendale Road, Wilmington, Delaware 19810
- 455 Aron Roberts, P.O. Box 738, Thousand Oaks, California 91360
- 456 Sid Emerson, 111 North Broadway, Escondido, California 92025
- 457 Mike Marker, 316 Glynwood Avenue, Wapakoneta, Ohio 45895

THE NATIVES ARE RESTLESS: Below are changes of address during the past four months:

- 167 David W. Fischer, 5075C Scarsdale Drive, Kettering, Ohio 45440
- 157 Harlan E. Ives, 519 George Street, New Haven, Connecticut 06511
- 168 Arnold F. Strother, M.D., 406 September Drive, Richmond, VA 23229
- 37 John Young, Rte. 63, Westmoreland, N. H. 03467

TNA-EAC REPORT: 1794 FREAKS TAKE OVER AGAIN!

John M. Ward, Jr.

Very possibly the smallest meeting in the annals of the EAC convened in Houston the weekend of the Texas Numismatic Association convention (April 26-28, 1974). Nevertheless, Saturday evening, April 28, was an historic occasion - the first time the geographically-monstrous but populationally-miniscule South-west Region had a formally-convened EAC meeting with both a chairman and a secretary in attendance. I forget now whether Darwin Palmer or I had the idea first, but we both agreed that a formal meeting should be held and we hoped that we wouldn't be the only two attendees. That concern was more substantial than firm plans for any sort of organized agendum.

Our worries were groundless, because Ray Kelly (Oklahoma City) and Phil Van Cleave (Carsbad, New Mexico) put in early appearances: they alone doubled the minimum attendance. And, as it turned out, coins literally became the entire program with the planned agendum almost being abandoned in real time (as we in aerospace say - Tom Morley, please copy) for looking, comparing, and anecdote-telling.

To summarize the meeting, the non-attending 1794 freaks would have been in seventh heaven - thanks to Phil and Darwin bringing along significant portions of their collections in coined (rather than foil-impressed) form. Those two EACers know a thing or forty of the S-17 to S-72 series; and what they brought with them was something else again! For his part, Phil (who collects ALL the Sheldon cents in very respectable conditions) had about thirty 1794's, including that easy one - the S-48 (Starred Reverse) in F15. (As a Sheldon collector by major type, I was sorry that he hadn't brought his S-64 (No Fraction Bar), so I compensated by mentally lusting after his non-1794 S-272 (Small 07/06) - perfect color and surfaces, even over-all wear, and a strict F12 by Loring standards.) Lest I seem disrespectful, let me add that the only other 1794 which I know enough about to look for by Sheldon number is the S-33 (Wheel Spokes) - and that coin is the only 1794 which Phil lacks. That fact alone should convey some idea of what his collection is like!

Darwin had only four 1794's with him, but many of the EACers will know which four: Sheldons 22, 32, 38, and 61 in conditions 45, 55, 45 (repaired/impaired 25 plus in the Condition Census), and 55 respectively. What Phil and Darwin did was to lay out each of their coins on top of its pouch and envelope - Phil's coins in three rows of about ten each, and Darwin's fantastic four in a fourth row. It was a very impressive sight - even I had to admit that it was!

It came to me later that this sort of thing was impossible - except in a small, trusted gathering. In a larger context, such a display and openness of handle-by-the-edge-but-don't aspirate-on-them would be imprudent, if not insane. As regards the carbon-aspiration bit, Ray (who had a very bad case of laryngitis) and I remained very quiet and respectful during the showing of the 1794's. How else can type collectors respond to such displays?

After we all had looked at several other noteworthy pieces from each other's collections, Darwin presented a slide show on the various types and major varieties, with emphasis on the tough, seldom-encountered major varieties. His discussion of the S-264-265 emission sequence and the attendant anomalies was especially interesting; and I was sure surprised to see my (ex-Palmer) S-264 screened at one point. Everyone was able to add a little to the presentation - even I did, by being able to differentiate between the S-1, 2, and 3 obverses from memory. (Well, the 1794 freaks get hung up on peculiar stuff and can't appreciate Chains, it seems.)

Of course I discovered how ignorant I was when I learned the obvious (and I really wonder how many other poor collectors I represented vicariously); to wit, that Sheldon cents have center dots as well as Newcomb cents. Well, hell, they'd have to, after all, for the same reason - the compass point for describing the engraver's field. It just never occurred to me to look for them because Dr. Sheldon makes no big deal of them as did Newcomb, and they are worn off of the average collectible coins. (After Darwin's slide show, I sneaked back to look at his fantastic four - sure enough, there are dots!)

The remainder of the evening just sped by. I had brought along all my back issues of P-W and many reference books, plus my coin press, aluminum foil, and holders since I had no worry about weight. This meeting was Ray Kelly's first occasion to see a Tom Wolf press do its thing - I wouldn't be a bit surprised if Ray hasn't bought one for himself by now. I pressed some of all our coins for everyone. Phil's coins were pressed most often, however - I have pressings of his S-48 and his S-272, and Darwin has pressings of at least four of his 1794's.

Typical of all EAC meetings, time zipped by and it was nearly 2 A.M. before anyone realized it. Ray was staying in the same hotel as Darwin, so he made it to bed uneventfully. Phil was staying at a hotel some distance from downtown, but on the way to where I was going to spend the night in town. About half a block from Phil's hotel, I detected a distinct sweet-liquor smell - I thought to myself how peculiar that was! I knew I hadn't been drinking (Ray Chatham can certify how tough that must have been for me) and I didn't think that Phil had been imbibing either. Surely, the chemists in EAC are going to guess what I detected in olfactory, steam, and liquid form just one block after letting Phil out of the car - ethylene glycol, commonly known as anti-freeze. Luckily, I made it to my destination with no trouble, where I friction-taped and twined my radiator-bypass hose (\$1.33) enough to suffice making it back to the convention site the next day.

Other highlights of the TNA-EAC, I guess, include Old-Fantastic-Memory Palmer picking up a doggy-looking coin (yuck!), dated 1818, at the very first booth we stopped at. After checking his John Wright photographic quick-attributor (now out of stock; the ACLU may help sue me as underprivileged as well as breach of promise), Darwin bought this dog from my rotund namesake from Palestine, Texas. Darwin told me later that it was the 1818 N-4 and R5 and all that; I knew there was something suspicious when he didn't try to knock off the odd 75¢ to get an even better bargain. (Of course I'm suspicious whenever Darwin is interested in \$3. plus coins anyway!) At least, Darwin was off

to a great start, even though I didn't have too great an opinion of the coin in the condition it was in.

Later that day, both of us came across an intriguingly-nice 1820 - definitely not the doggy kind (not being an entomologist, I don't keep my rabies shots current as Darwin does). I'm not a Palmer-Loring-Breen memorizer, so I had to drag out all my reading material and decide whether or not to try to go the price. After I had ascertained that the coin might be worth having, even at the price, Darwin and I came up with the money. It was old hat to him, but it was a thrill to me, to find something special - the first time in 17 years of penny (1793-1974) collecting. As some of you know now, having seen it at the CSNS, the piece turned out to be the CC5 1820 N-3 in AU55 - no big deal except that this piece proves that the N-3 is cut over 1819, not over 1818 or stray marks or whatever. John Wright and I viewed it under a 45-power binoscope, and we think that another numismatic footnote has been added to history.

But, back to the TNA-EAC show. Darwin got extremely involved in Bolivian rarities with someone who had just bought a great collection. To finance his endeavor in that direction, he ended up by selling his S-38 to Phil Van Cleave for some cash plus Phil's S-38. Although I was very happy for Phil, I was sorry at the implications to Darwin's collection - the fantastic four had just become the fabulous three! I mean, what the hell, Darwin was going in the wrong direction if he were going to try to assemble a 1794 collection worthy of his newly-adopted state!

All in all, it was great! Although we had an incredibly small meeting, I think that we Southwestern EACers compensated by getting to know each other better. We weren't overwhelmed at the number of people to meet and to absorb as friends too quickly. As a native Texan, I have to admit that there is really something to be said for being small - if it's a small EAC meeting!

* * * * *

SPECIAL OFFER TO EAC MEMBERS

Over the years we have been friends with many if not most EAC club members. Perhaps you are already acquainted with our "Rare Coin Review" (issued several times a year), our "Special Coin Letter" (issued about ten times a year), and the auction catalogues produced by our division, the American Auction Association, Inc. If not, we would like to make this special offer to you: We will send you without charge or obligation of any kind our latest large illustrated catalogue. Each issue contains many different United States colonial coins, half cents, large cents, and other interesting pieces. To receive your copy simply write "Send me a free copy of your latest catalogue per your special EAC offer" on a note or postcard and send it to us. Your catalogue will be sent by return mail!

We are always interested in the acquisition, either for purchase or for sale at auction, of choice and desirable early United States coins. When you think of selling your collection consider us.

Bowers and Ruddy Galleries, Inc., 6922 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood, CA 90028

* * * * *

HOW A CHERRYPICKER CAN LOSE OUT TO A LAZY DEALER

Raymond F. Kelly

Upon receiving a notice from John Ward, Jr. and Darwin Palmer that the first meeting of the Southwest Region of the EAC would be held in conjunction with the 16th annual meeting of the Texas Numismatic Association in Houston on April 26, 27, 28, 1974, my wife, Josephine, and I started making plans to attend.

After having had the Porsche 912 polished and tuned up, we took off on the morning of Thursday, April 25, and arrived without incident in Houston that night about 8 P.M. We checked into our motel, talked with John Ward on the telephone, and then made a quick tour of the tables which had already been set up at the bourse. But we were quite tired from our long trip, so we retired early.

I was suffering from a head cold and a bad case of laryngitis, so we didn't make it back to the scene again until about 11 A.M. the next day, Friday. There was nothing to be found at the first four tables we visited except a display of foreign coins which were being auctioned off later that day. At the fifth table, however, we found displayed two large cents, one being a prize 1798 which appeared to have Mint luster. The coin exhibited little signs of wear and would surely grade AU50, although it did have several small planchet defects about 2 mm. in diameter. The owner of the display case wasn't around, but his neighbor at the next table allowed me to examine it. A hasty check of my "Sheldon" indicated the coin to be an S-149 (R6); but, as so often is the case, the dealer had failed to put a price on the 2x2 which contained it. Thus, I still didn't know whether the coin would sell for \$300. or maybe even \$600.

I waited around for about twenty minutes in hopes that the owner would turn up; but when he didn't, and not wishing to miss out on some real "cherries" elsewhere, I departed. I came back about an hour later, but still no owner. The neighboring dealer did pay me the courtesy of turning over the two large cents, obverse down. I went back to the motel to rest, and finally made it back to the bourse about 8:30 that evening. The dealer had showed up in the meantime, but he advised me that he had just sold the 1798 large cent only a few minutes before to another dealer for \$125. I asked him to check with the dealer to see what the coin would now cost me and I was advised that the price was \$165. Since this put quite a dent in my cash on hand, I decided to pass.

The next day, after having determined that the motel would accept my personal check for our stay, I decided that I would go ahead and meet the dealer's price. I went back to the bourse and checked over the hall thoroughly, only to find out that the dealer had gone home. I did manage to pick up an 1801 large cent, an 1802, and an 1803 for a nominal outlay of cash, but my disappointment at not getting the 1798 piece at its original price was very real.

This practice by many dealers of not putting prices on their coins is based presumably upon the belief that if a prospective buyer stops and inquires

the price of a piece then the dealer may be able to extract a higher price than he would get if the piece had been plainly marked beforehand. On the other hand, if a prospective buyer is forced to wait for the dealer to appear or if he must call back at his table any number of times because the dealer won't stay long enough at his table to be found, and then the prospective buyer eventually finds out that the coin is priced way beyond his ability to pay, I say that this is a most discourteous practice. It should be the requirements by the management of a coin show that a sale price must be clearly displayed on all merchandise, just as it is at most antique shows. Furthermore, if an item is not for sale, it should not be allowed to be displayed except at an exhibit table.

I thought that the highlight of this particular show in Houston was the exhibit of what must be one of the top-graded 1794 Starred Reverse cents now in existence. Its owner may wish to remain anonymous, so I haven't listed his name here.

I am leaving the balance of the proceedings of the EAC Regional meeting to be reported on by John Ward or Darwin Palmer, but I desire to express my gratitude at being able to attend despite the relatively poor attendance by EAC members of the Southwest Region.

* * * * *

BETTER LATE THAN NEVER

Roger P. Hurlburt, Jr.

Recently, while looking through old copies of PENNY-WISE, I came across some comments by Mr. Walter Breen in the March 15, 1969 issue. Mr. Breen questioned the existence of a number of die stages for Newcomb varieties referred to by W. E. Johnson in his Late Date census publication LC167C. One of the coins singled out by Mr. Breen was the 1835 N-8, Stage III.

I purchased an example of the aforementioned cent in Hyannis, Massachusetts during the winter of 1972. The piece grades VF35 and has a nice, golden-tan color. The obverse breaks seem to follow the Stage III characteristics mentioned by Newcomb. The first crack begins below the 1 in the date and passes through the right side of that number, through the bust and neck, past the right side of the ear, through the right top of the T in LIBERTY, past the top left of the first hair-band, and ending at the rim between the eighth and the ninth stars. A second crack branches off from the first crack, at the top of the head, and goes through the left side of the eighth star.

I feel that my particular specimen represents the terminal stage of the 1835 N-8 - i.e. Newcomb's 1835 N-8, Stage III. Does anyone have a similar coin?

* * * * *

REPORT ON CENTRAL STATES NUMISMATIC SOCIETY SHOW

Detroit Hilton Hotel

May 9-12, 1974

Rod Burress

(and commentary by Gordon Wrubel)

This year's CSNS show in Detroit proved to be quite an event. Those who attended certainly had a good time, and those who could not make the trip should certainly watch their calendars and try to make the next one. This show featured a large, well-diversified bourse and a RARCOA auction session containing 150 different Sheldon varieties including specimens from the collections of Hines, French, Pearl, Williams, Sullivan, Lahrman, Hydemann, and others. Approximately thirty EAC members were present at one time or another. Phone calls and correspondence with Gordon Wrubel during March and April laid the necessary plans for an informative brochure which was mailed out to regional members and invited them to attend.

I left Cincinnati by Greyhound early Friday morning, May 10; and, five hours later, after a fairly pleasant but crowded ride, I arrived in Detroit and checked into the Hilton Hotel. After depositing considerable luggage in my room, I grabbed my reference books and headed for the bourse. There were eighty or ninety dealers present; and activity abounded, even though it was the middle of a Friday afternoon. Many large cents had been available; but, by Friday afternoon, twenty-four hours of thorough searching had been carried out by Del Bland, John Wright, Chuck Furjanic, Gordon Wrubel, John Ward, Bill Smith, etc. Chuck Furjanic had tons of coppers available, and I was able to acquire an S-135 and an S-243 for my anemic, but improving, Sheldon variety collection and an 1819 N-4 upgrader for my Matron Heads. A deal with John Wright brought in a raft of other needed Sheldon varieties from among his duplicates. Jack Beymer had a good supply of nice large cents at attractive prices. I regretted having blown my budget by the time I got to his table, especially after seeing some lovely Draped Bust varieties which Ohio dealer, Harold Moore, showed me after he had purchased them from Jack.

Dinner time came and I accompanied John and Mabel Ann Wright, with Billy, Betsy, and Bobby to a family steak restaurant. After dinner, the three little Wrights were made comfortable in their hotel room; and John, Mabel Ann and I proceeded to my room for a whist match on our Matron Head varieties. We saw no reason not to begin with the 1816's and to work our way forward, going very slowly and studying each other's cents in great detail. After four hours, we had gotten only as far as the 1820's, at which time we took a thirty minute break to play 184 Pickup when John spilled his entire collection all over the floor. Poor sportsmanship couldn't have been the cause, as he totaled 115 points to my 65 at the end of round 5. While his entire collection contains only two varieties that I don't have, very few in my collection proved to be superior in condition to his. We vowed to continue the match, starting with the 1821's, at our next meeting. I got the opportunity to see numerous Mint errors in his collection; and, of course, I was able to see his 1822 #13 and his 1830 N-9

to satisfy my own curiosity that these varieties really do exist and that I only need to keep looking for them. We called it quits at 2 A.M., since Mable Ann had to arise early the next morning to take the kids on a Greenwich Village/Ford Museum trip.

On Saturday morning, May 11, I stopped in at Hudson's Department Store to look over their cents and to get some toys to take home to my kids. I didn't find any really good coins, although I acquired a VF 1819 N-6 to upgrade my VG10. I spent the remainder of the morning looking at the CSNS exhibits and going through the bourse again.

The RARCOA auction session #2, containing the large cents, was held that afternoon. Gordon Wrubel, Del Bland, John Wright, Jerry Bobbe, Bob Shalowitz, Ned Bush, Chuck Furjanic, Jeff Sharp, Doug Smith, Bill Smith, and Jim McGuigan, representing EAC, spearheaded the bidding. Ned Bush and Gordon Wrubel combined forces and bought in all the choice 1794's at reasonable prices. Then they had the enviable task of dividing the "spoils" of their victorious bids. Most of the Draped Busts sold at fairly low prices, so anyone who really wanted a certain variety was able to buy it at an affordable sum. The grading was right for the most part, optimistic in several cases, and conservative on some pieces.

Following the auction, our regional EAC meeting was begun with the following in attendance:

Ed Allen	Mich.	Jon Lusk	Mich.
Del Bland	Calif.	Jim McGuigan	Mich.
Jerry Bobbe	Ill.	Bill Raymond	Mass.
Rod Burress	Ohio	Mulford Simons	Penna.
Ned Bush	Ind.	Bill Smith	Ill.
Ray Chatham	N. C.	Doug Smith	N. Y.
Phil Flanagan	Ohio	Phil Wagner	Inc.
Chuck & Maria Furjanic	Penna.	John Ward	Texas
Gordon Harnack	Ind.	John Wright	Mich.
George Hatie	Mich.	Mabel Ann Wright	Mich.
Phil Horner	Ohio	Gordon Wrubel	Mich.
Julian Heidman	Md.		

We were fortunate to have ANA Vice-President George Hatie attending as a guest speaker in John Jay Pittman's excused absence. Hatie's topic was "Colonial Coinage and Its History". At the end of his discussion, he passed around a felt-lined tray containing some beautiful Colonials from the 1700's, including the seldom seen Continental Dollar. Mr. Hatie also had his date set of large cents with him, and we eagerly grabbed them up to attribute them. There were many beautiful chocolate-colored VF's among his Early Date cents.

Next, I discussed an attribution key for 1797 cents and I used slides to illustrate the various points on the outline. Each person present was given a copy of the attribution key. The next topic was grading; and I had prepared an exhibit on the grading of Draped Bust and Matron Head cents, illustrated by

coins of numerical grades G4 through VF30. Del Bland, Doug Smith, and Gordon Wrubel each took a turn at re-grading the cents in the exhibit and marking their grades on the chart. This then became a useful display for others to study. Many persons were awed by the conservatism of grading.

John Wright then gave his excellent presentation on the status of the middle years revision and provided us with a summary of the rare varieties of that period (1816-1839). Ray Chatham was an avid note-taker during this talk.

Bill Smith provided some well-designed check list forms for persons at the meeting to keep personal records of their varieties of half cents and large cents.

As the afternoon lapsed into evening, Phil Horner, Del Bland, and John Ward had to be on their way home. The remainder of the time was spent as a swap-and-sell session with Gordon Harnack, Phil Flanagan, and Bill Smith providing large cents for our consideration.

Sunday, May 12, saw some last minute scurrying for the choice cents still available in dealers' cases. Then, it was pack up, fond farewells, and much shuttling to Metropolitan Detroit Airport.

* * * * *

A CENT WITH AN INTERESTING PAST

Darwin Palmer, Jr.

1846 was the year of "the Great Fire" on the island of Nantucket. William O. Stevens, in his book NANTUCKET, published in 1936, relates as follows:

"The fire started in the business district and spread among the shops, dwellings, and stored barrels of whale oil. Before checked, the fire destroyed the very heart of the town: 360 buildings on 36 acres, totaling a million dollar loss, one-third being covered by insurance."

The debris from the fire was carted to local farmlands. Many years later, one dump site became a cow pasture and the owner often picked up old coins from the site where the debris had been dumped more than a hundred years before. The owner relegated these coins which consisted of large cents, Colonial pieces, some English coppers, and miscellaneous silver pieces to an old chamber pot. Eventually, a relative of the owner-finder rescued the charcoal-broiled coins from the pot; and, through him, I was able to finally rescue one of the large cents, because I recognized it to be the very scarce 1818 N-4.

Of course, the fire had taken its toll of this cent's surface; but were it not for the fire and the events which followed, I might still be looking for this variety to help complete my collection.

* * * * *

Del Bland

On June 6, 1974, an Early American Coppers Club regional meeting was held at Carl Windon's home in Oakland, California, the regular meeting place in this area. Those attending were Dick Winterhalder, Bob Vail, Bob Schuman, Chuck Woodruff, Del Bland, Carl Windon, and a foreigner from Center Line, Michigan, Gordie Wrubel. It was an honor to have Gordie visit us as he adds greatly to any event which he attends, and this time was no exception.

All of us arrived at Carl's home about 7 P.M.; and after a warm welcome by his wife, Vanda, we proceeded straight to the basement for a delightful evening of coins, discussions, and planning for future events. Gordie immediately became the star attraction when he passed around his collection of 1794's for viewing. Then, everyone got out his own boxes of coins - there was plenty to look at, from half cents to gold (ugh!). Bob Schuman, who just recently shed his pony tail for a head full of "cutie" curls, tried unsuccessfully to talk Gordie out of his VF35 S-23. This was an impossible task, and Bob soon realized how fruitless his efforts were. Incidentally, Bob recently obtained a beautiful VF25 S-36 which was formerly in Denis Loring's collection.

Bob Vail passed around twelve large cents from his collection, all in grades almost never seen these days for the particular varieties shown. Some of these came from a Sacramento dealer, others from the recent Dr. Charles Ruby and Central States Auction sales. An 1822 N-1 MS60+ and an 1843 N-5 MS65 were two of those he showed. Chuck Woodruff spent the evening in breathless amazement at the quality of coins being displayed. And like at our last meeting, Dick Winterhalder and Bob Vail got busy examining various aspects of large cents and Colonials, the latter of which Dick has a great interest in. Carl Windon had his vast collection available for all to see. Each time one looks at his collection, he realizes how much time and effort Carl has put into it to accumulate such completeness and quality.

Several coins changed hands during the evening. Dick profited most by obtaining two Colonials, one of which was a 1652 Transitional Shilling, Noe 14, in EF condition. Bob Vail and I completed a deal which involved the finest known 1839 N-5, a previously unknown MS65 example and one of the coins which he had picked up in Sacramento. Carl purchased a couple of Proof two cent pieces, dates of 1872 and 1864, the large motto type, which completed his collection in Proof condition with the exception, of course, of the 1864 small motto variety.

A discussion was held, regarding the club's role in placing another group of exhibits at the Northern California Coin Convention to be held in San Francisco in September. As was the case last year, our club will be the featured exhibitor. Colonials, half cents, and large cents will be displayed; and several cases of coins will be shown. An EAC regional meeting will be held that Saturday evening at 7 P.M.

After refreshments prepared by Vanda had been disposed of, Gordie and I had to depart, as we had a long drive of 400 miles over night to get to the Los Angeles Coin and Stamp Exposition which opened the following morning.

I would like to invite all EAC members and would-be members in the area to attend the best regional meetings held anywhere - in our club. A great evening with the old coppers is guaranteed each time.

* * * * *

WEST COAST REGIONAL (Southern Area) EAC MEETING

Jeff Oliphant

On June 14, 1974, a regional EAC meeting was held at my home - 5255 Allott Avenue, Van Nuys, California. The meeting was hastily arranged, with invitations being extended by telephone the week before. Eight members attended:

Doug Bird	Martin Oghigian
Del Bland	Jeff Oliphant
Glen Kemp	Paul Oliphant
Dane Nielsen	Gordon Wrubel

No formal agenda had been planned. However, we had a brief grading quiz when Gordie passed around a 1798 S-152. The grades ranged from 4 to 9 (10/8), with a consensus opinion of 7. Glen brought along his collection, which the rest of us took turns going through. He has several very nice cents. My father and I showed our collection, which was thoroughly reviewed by Doug and Marty. Particular attention was paid to the cents we had purchased from the Naftzger sale. Del, Gordie, and Dane spent a good portion of the evening, going over some Condition Census and rarity data. Gordie brought along his dealer's stock, which contained several choice large cents and a considerable amount of gold. We all were amazed at how high the prices have risen since the Naftzger sale.

Towards the beginning of the meeting, I received a call from Alan Meghrig in New Jersey, one of many which we have had regarding our cumulative index project. The index should be out in a matter of days now. Alan's call prompted me to give a progress report and to discuss with him the various proposals for a suitable format.

The meeting at my home was held in conjunction with the Long Beach Coin and Stamp Exposition. I was unable to attend the exposition, but the others reported that the prices were sky-high, although there was the usual amount of copper floating around. Evidently, the bourse offered no bargains, as our resident cherrypickers were unable to unearth anything to speak of during the first three days of the show.

Our group here in the Van Nuys area is tentatively planning another meeting toward the end of the summer. We hope that we can get a larger turnout and we look forward to meeting some of the newer members who recently joined EAC.

* * * * *

NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL EAC MEETING,
BOSTON, MASS., SPRING, 1974

Charles E. Funk, Jr., Regional Secretary

A most successful mini-gathering of the clan was held in conjunction with the Bay State Coin and Stamp Show in the Statler-Hilton Hotel, Boston, on June 15, 1974. Nine EAC members of the New England Region, plus three spouses, were joined by the late-arriving Bob Shalowitz of Baltimore, making a total attendance equal to the normal number of stars on a you-know-what.

Those present were: Regional Chairman W. K. (Bill) Raymond and wife, Jeannine; Denis Loring (National Secretary) and wife, Paula; and (alphabetically), Charles E. Davis, Charles E. Funk, Jr., Carvin Goodridge, Philip M. Mann, Jr., Bob Shalowitz, Jim Skalbe, Bernard Weisburgh and wife Diane, and Lillian S. (Mrs. Thomas N.) Willins. As a small attempt at fun and games, members were asked to register both by name and by membership number. Only six of the nine (the game was over before Bob arrived) re-membered - of these, it is interesting to note that the measure of seniority of membership ranged from #11 (Denis) to #377 (Jim).

First order of business concerned election of a regional secretary, since Paul Munson, who had only just been elected, found it necessary to resign, owing to his impending move to the Southwest (New England's loss is indeed Southwest's gain!). Chuck Funk's name was placed before the group, and he was elected without dissent.

Attention was next given to a time and place for the next meeting. After discussion, it was agreed that Chairman Raymond would explore the possibility of meeting in conjunction with the Annual Convention of the New England Numismatic Association, to be held in Worcester, Mass., from October 25 through 27, 1974.

Chuck then mentioned that he had brought the slide show, based on his collection, parts of which had been shown to the EAC members at the ANA Boston Convention the previous August. Upon hearing a general expression of interest, he exhibited the whole show, which consists of four parts: copper/bronze antecedents of the U.S. large cent (from Chinese spade money through the Fugio coppers); types of the U.S. large cent (including the pattern Flying Eagle of 1854-54); examples of die deterioration as shown on selected large cents; and features of Coronet cents which serve to establish die varieties. Every observer will have a different "favorite" selection from such a show; that of your reporter is the sequence of eleven slides showing the complete stepwise deterioration of the obverse die of 1831 Newcomb 11 and 12 as it moves through its two marriages with reverses I and F, in that order.

During the course of the session, Denis confirmed that he had sold all but a very few pieces of his entire collection; but, as evidenced by the lack of surprise with which this information was greeted, it seemed that Sir Rumor had already spread the word to just about all those present. Bob Shalowitz, it

seems, was the buyer; and he distributed to those still present copies of his sales list thereof (other EAC members, he said, would get copies through the mail). Denis also announced that he is starting to rebuild, immediately.

The meeting closed with the inevitable wheeling, dealing, and bull-session activities, with those in attendance trickling away, one by one, to complete the rounds of the bourse tables or to engage in such other activities as interested them. Your scribe heard no tales whatever of miraculous "finds" on the floor, despite the presence of a rather significant total number of large cents and half cents being offered. He, himself, came home with naught but three new specimens of 1835's - an N-5½ which upgrades his holding from its former 10-coin to about 30; an N-8 II of grade 20 that examination in a better light tells him should have been left behind (the dealer had it market "XF/AU"); and an N-15 with a crack extending into AMERICA, and thus representing a die state not previously held.

* * * * *

RANDOM THOUGHTS ON THE ANA CONVENTION IN MIAMI

Tom Wolf

EAC will be well represented at the ANA convention in Miami. Two meetings have already been set, and there will undoubtedly be others to follow. Plans have been completed through Ken Hallenbeck for a general EAC meeting on Wednesday, August 14, at 9 A.M. (My God, that's early!). We also have a room available on Thursday, August 15, at 4 P.M. for an EAC meeting. I feel sure that our own South Florida Coin Club will also be able to make space available for us EACers, so get-togethers should be no problem.

In the past, I've always sent letters, personally, to all EAC members in the Southeast, announcing the various meetings. The results have always been positively underwhelming, so I'm not going to do it this time. Consider this announcement as your formal invitation to attend and to participate.

Do any of our members make convention badges? It would be nice if we had 30 or 40 badges which say EAC (or Early American Coppers, Inc.) with a space for one's name. It would also be nice if one of our dealer members would offer to set up an EAC Registration Book at his table.....we just need a spot somewhere at which EAC members can check in and sign an attendance sheet, so we'll know who is present. Any volunteers, Chuck?

As at ANA conventions in the past, things in Miami will be strictly informal. I'll be there; national EAC officers will be there; and hopefully, many EAC members will be there. No hard and fast format is ever needed when cent nuts get together. So, come on down; bring your duplicates; and join in the fun. See you in Miami!!!!

* * * * *

From DEL BLAND: "I would venture to say that the Western Region of our club (EAC) is the most active of any. Requests are made to me continually for new meetings. We have two very enthusiastic groups, one in the Los Angeles area, and the other in the San Francisco area. Even though we lost two of our most prominent members when Alan Meghrig and Jack Collins moved to New York, we still have enough copper buffs at our meetings to fill a room.

The next event out here will be the Jack Tar Convention in San Francisco in September. Our club will be the featured exhibitor at that show again this year. Hopefully, club members from other regions will be able to attend. The exhibits alone would be worth the trip."

From PHIL WAGNER: "I have another interesting happening to report in P-W at later date, but I'll have to put it together after the Indiana State Show to be held this weekend (June 7-8). I think that I have been lucky and found at least three important large cents all by myself."

From BRUCE HARRIS: "The letter on page 144 in the May, 1974 issue of PENNY-WISE, which you received from Roger Doran, has prompted this letter. I, too, am just starting out in large cent collecting. I am currently interested in early cents (1793-1814) by varieties. I find this aspect of coin collecting to be fascinating and very challenging. I have been collecting coins for years, and my interest in large cents bloomed after I purchased a low grade S-196. Unlike Mr. Doran's large cent collection, mine is very small and is highlighted by a few pieces which I picked up in the Ruby sale through the mail. I have also been reading back issues of P-W which I obtained from Rod Burress (a valuable reference, in themselves), along with reference books by Clapp, Newcomb, and Sheldon, which I borrowed from the ANA library.

I was introduced to EAC by an article in COIN WORLD, and I am very proud to be a part of an organization whose members include Dr. William Sheldon, Dorothy Paschal, and Walter Breen among others. I am looking forward to many rewarding experiences as an EAC member."

From JAN EDEBURN: "EAC continues to be a great club, and I hope to meet many of the members at the ANA convention in August. I vote for a get-together! Perhaps a dinner! Since I'm the only (?) member in South Carolina and move so often in the military, it has been difficult to meet many EACers.

I would be most interested in hearing when/if a new update on PENNY WHIMSY and/or Newcomb's book on the Late Dates will be published."

From BRUCE HARRIS: "I will be attending the B.R.N.A. Show in Atlanta as well as the ANA convention in Bal Harbour. I am looking forward to meeting all EAC members."

From JEFF OLIPHANT: "We have hopefully completed the EAC computerized cumulative index. John Wright has the material. We are all satisfied with the project, except that a question has arisen as to the format. This will be resolved between John Wright and Chuck Funk, after which the project will be forwarded to Bill Parks for duplication and distribution."

From WILLIAM R. T. SMITH: "The CSNS show was very interesting, between the EAC members who attended, and the auction. A few people from the "East" made it to Detroit - Doug Smith, WarrenENZler, Bernard Weisburgh, W. K. Raymond. Maybe next time, Herb, Central States can find a more delightful city and you can make it. All of which prompts me to ask: Whatever happened to Sy Wanderman, Tru-Value Coin Co., and his S-96? Do you have any idea? I am still seeking a nice (as nice as they come) S-96."

From CHUCK FUNK: "Snoopy said 'Life is full of rude awakenings'. My own recent rude awakening was to find myself being named Secretary of the New England Region of EAC, in which capacity I am supplying you with a report of the recent Boston meeting thereof. As to the cumulative index, there will be a slight delay because of programming problems, but the index will be sent for publication soon, I am sure."

From BOB MILLER: "I have just returned from Montreal and wish to report that I found only eight U.S. large cents in all the coin shops there. I purchased an 1812 S-288 in VF25 for \$30., which was the only bargain.

I have opened a new coin shop as of May 1. The address is 553 South Broad, Ridgefield, New Jersey. The shop is on Routes 1 and 9, on the Ridgefield Traffic Circle. I sold the other shop which was in Fairview, New Jersey."

From MABEL ANN WRIGHT: "I'm enclosing an updated listing of new members. Aron Roberts of Thousand Oaks, California says he will soon be 15 years old and is interested in the early coppers. Wallace Brown sent a note of resignation, saying that EAC is 'much too sophisticated' for him - he collects rare coins as an investment, not as a hobby. I suspect that there are others in this category who let their membership lapse after a year of PENNY-WISE.

Paul Munson has resigned as Northeast Regional Secretary as he will soon be moving to Arizona. I believe that Chuck Funk has been elected in his place."

* * * * *

TOM MORLEY SAYS:

"Pickin's for large cents in Florida coin shows during this past spring were rather slim except for the Daytona Beach show. There was nothing to speak of at the Ocala, Palm Beach, Winter Haven, or Titusville shows. The Daytona show, however, proved to be the one that had a few goodies. I picked up some duplicates there, including a VF S-26, an S-71 in G, and surprisingly enough, an S-34 in almost Good. There was also an AU 1797 common variety ex Dr. French piece being offered for \$3,000.

Looking back over the last five years during which time I've attended all the Florida shows, I would say that it seems that large cents are becoming almost extinct down here."

* * * * *

The following article was forwarded to your Editor by Raymond H. Williamson, noted numismatic authority on large cents and an honored EAC member. The article originally appeared in the AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS, Volume XII, No. 4, pp 103-105, April, 1878, and is reprinted here in full for the interest and enjoyment of all EACers. Joseph J. Mickley, of course, has been called "the father of coin collecting in the United States" and he was one of the first to begin collecting U.S. large cents. PENNY-WISE acknowledges, with thanks, the source of the original article; and the Editor expresses his appreciation to Mr. Williamson for furnishing him with a copy of the article so that it could be reprinted verbatim.

* * * * *

DEATH OF JOSEPH J. MICKLEY

The Interesting Career of a Linguist, Antiquarian, and Musician.

"Mr. Joseph J. Mickley, who died suddenly on Friday evening, February 15, 1878, at the house of Dr. J. A. Meigs, on Spruce Street, above Broad, was well known both in this country and Europe for his antiquarian tastes. On the night of his death, he had started out to visit Mr. Oliver Hopkinson, at 1424 Spruce Street, but feeling a sudden oppression, he stopped at the house of Dr. Meigs, for many years his physician, where he expired half an hour afterward. The doctors declare fatty degeneration of the heart to have been the cause of his death.

"Mr. Mickley was born in Lehigh county, of 'Pennsylvania Dutch' stock on March 24, 1799. Sixty years ago he came to this city (Philadelphia) and learned piano-making. Later, he engaged in this business on his own account, and was so employed until 1869. Many years since, he began collecting curious coins of all nations; and, in time, he had the most valuable collection in the United States. In 1867, he was robbed of \$16,000 worth of coins; and a short time afterward, he sold the rest of his collection for a like sum. Two years later, he went to Europe, whither his fame as an antiquarian had preceded him, and was warmly received there. He remained abroad three years, traveling through all parts of England and the Continent. While in Europe, he perfected himself in the Swedish language; and he became deeply interested in books and manuscripts bearing upon the early Swedish settlements in America. In addition to his collection of coins, Mr. Mickley possessed a large library of rare and curious books in many languages. He had a number of very old directories of Philadelphia and other cities, containing the names and residences of Washington, Jefferson, and other distinguished Revolutionary patriots. He had also many volumes relating to the history of Pennsylvania; and, at the time of his death, was translating a Swedish manuscript upon the same subject, in anticipation of publishing a work upon the early annals of the State. He was an acknowledged musical critic, and was said to be the best mender of musical instruments in the United States. Ole Bull was his intimate friend, and his house was for many years the resort of antiquarians, musicians, and historians from all parts of the world. It was he who discovered that the violin which Ole Bull had bought for a Gaspar Desala was a counterfeit. Among his musical treasures was an autographed composition of Beethoven. Besides being

extremely acquainted with European history and literature, Mr. Mickley could speak fluently French, German, and Swedish. He was very simple in his ways; and, while firm in his convictions and keen in his judgment of men, he was singularly gentle and lovable. Mr. Mickley was the first president of the Numismatic Society, and a well-known member both of the Franklin Institute and the Pennsylvania Historical Society. For some time past, his books have been packed away. He was, however, making alterations in a house on Wood Street, near Franklin, where he could have his library about him, when death stepped in to cut short a life spent in quiet study and refined enjoyment."

The foregoing notice appeared in one of the Philadelphia papers, and (after a few corrections) is accurate and well informed. Allow me to add a few items, at random, without the formality of an Obituary or Eulogy. It is true he was "born of Pennsylvania Dutch stock", but his language was the polished and correct German, not the patois of our neighbors. He came from a settlement of Moravians, to whom he belonged, and who have famous boarding schools at Bethlehem and Nazareth, about sixty miles north of this city. He was born at Catassaqua, now a noted place for iron manufacture, four miles from Bethlehem. Originally, he was of French Huguenot stock, the name being Michelet, afterwards germanicized into Mueckli, finally anglicized into Mickley. In October, 1863, the family had a centennial, and Mr. Mickley wrote and read a memoir, which was printed for their use in 1875. They had sore times among the Indians at the early settlement, without any fault of their own.

There is, in one of your magazines, an account of the beginning of his numismatism. He was about seventeen years old (say in 1816) when he formed a wish to own a cent, coined in the year of his nativity. He had hard work to find one, as you can readily understand. A good cent of 1799 now brings many dollars. This exercise only whetted him for further acquisitions in the same line. No doubt, "the thing was in him", but that was what brought it to the surface; and probably it proved a great incentive to the study of languages, and history, and antiquities, as a diversion from the daily labor of making pianos and repairing violins. Here, I may say, his linguistic appetite was remarkable. Besides the languages named in the obituary, he took pains to pick up a vocabulary in almost every country which he visited during three years' travel. I once asked him for the various renderings of railroad; he gave it to me in Italian, Spanish, Swedish, Russian, German, and modern Greek. (He could not answer for ancient Greek, although he was not without the classic touch.) He said he had trouble to keep his Italian and Spanish from running into each other. In the entertaining manuscript journal of his travels, to show how the Russians are given to the study of other languages than their own, he states that at Nishni-Novgorod, a town well on to the border of Siberia, he went into a restaurant, where were two young ladies, one of them smoking a cigarette. Supposing he might safely soliloquize in German, he said, "What a pity for such a nice girl to be smoking." Quickly she took out the cigarette, and gave him to know that she understood women's rights, and German besides. With his usual naivete, he adds, "How careful we should be." He seemed bound to see everything in Europe, as well as the borders of Asia and Africa. He was

almost stifled in the crypt of an Egyptian pyramid; needed his overcoat in Lapland, where he went in June, to see the sun go all around without making a dip; fell down the ancient well of Cicero at Rome; and was knocked down by a careless driver in Constantinople, and taken up for dead.

Your magazine (viz. AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS) has heretofore mentioned his acquaintance formed with the lady-engraver at the mint of Stockholm, Madame Leah Alborne. Her father, M. Lundgren, the former engraver, had her educated in Paris in that profession, and she succeeded him. Her work is very superior, and this makes it the more pleasant to mention, that at her express and repeated desire, he lately sat for his profile portrait (photograph), from which she is now engraving a medal of him. The legends will be in the Swedish tongue. Her aim is to have it ready for the Paris Exposition. I need hardly say that I forwarded her a humble claim for one medal for the Mint Cabinet and one for myself. She will be distressed to hear of his death, although at the age to which he attained, it could surprise no one.

The robbery of his numismatic cabinet, briefly mentioned in the obituary, was a prominent event, and a turning-point in his life. He was always ready, too ready, in the unsuspecting openness of his heart, to show his collection to friends or strangers. Sometimes, as he has told me, he would find a piece or two missing after such an opening of his drawers. Doubtless it was at some such visit as this that the robbery was planned. It took place on an evening, about eight o'clock, while Mr. Mickley was at work in his shop in the back building. The cabinet was kept in the third story front room of the main building. A slight noise induced him to go up there, not in time to encounter the burglar, one or more, but in time to see the devastation. How much was taken cannot be definitely stated; certainly as much as a man could carry away. A large part consisted of rare British coins, gold and silver; but other countries are copiously represented, and many pieces were American duplicates. It is stated that at some time before he was offered \$30,000. for the whole collection. The unstolen residue that went to auction in New York soon after, brought some \$15,000. It is quite likely that the booty was worth an equal sum. I well remember when Mr. Mickley came into my office, with the painful intelligence. "Oh, I have been robbed - I have been robbed! My coins taken; I can't tell how many. But it was a mercy I did not encounter the man. No doubt he was prepared to blind and gage me, as such fellows generally are." It was a great shock to him; probably, he never fully recovered from it, even in the excitement of foreign travel. It never was certainly known what became of this treasure, but Mr. Mickley had good reasons for settling his suspicions upon a certain person. One day he said to me, "I believe I met the man that robbed me, just now in Chestnut Street." Years after, a few very fine gold pieces of England were offered for sale at the Mint Cabinet rooms. I was so well convinced that the labels were in his handwriting that I sent for him to come and see them. He could not deny the likeness, but seemed reluctant to entertain the subject at all. They came from honest hands, through the few links of ownership that could be traced, but it was impossible to go backward for eight or nine years.

After that event, and the public sale of the remainder, his taste seemed

to modulate from coins to coin-books, which shifting seems likely to occur with old collectors. (In a marginal note, Ray Williamson has appended the following: "True for RHW!) One of his last dealings in this way, was to unite with me in importing two copies of a recent work of great merit, Henfrey's NUMISMATA CROMWELLIANA.

In his house in Market Street near Tenth, where he lived longest (27 years), he had no front store. You had to pull the bell and go through a long entry, and up a dark stairway, to reach his place of work and sale. How far the work was needful to him, I cannot say. It seemed rather to be kept up for the pleasure and healthfulness of employment. It is not easy to understand on other grounds why a man who was constantly importing costly coins and buying scarce books should care for the compensation of tuning pianos and putting harps and violins in order. He was, however, the agent for the sale of a popular make of pianos, having a stock of them in his home.

Those students who know what it is to have an amateur workshop (and me thinks every brain-working man owes it to himself to have some such diversion) can realize the pleasure that Mr. Mickley enjoyed amongst his tools and work-benches. And it was really amusing to see men of culture and refinement coming there to sit around his old stove, on three-legged stools, or anything that could be extemporized into a seat. They liked to chat with him, and he with them; and once a week he held a quartette in a better room, taking one of the parts himself.

As a "mender of musical instruments", his crowning performance was one already stated in your magazine - restoring the violin which was owned by Washington. Not that it was in such great disorder, but that it had been played upon by so great a man. The charm of this piece of work was undoubtedly enhanced when Ole Bull came in and took up the instrument. There was but one reserved seat that time, and Mr. Mickley formed the whole audience.

In fine, Mr. Mickley was an agreeable man to associate with, and an honorable man to deal with. He seemed superior to any meanness, and free from vulgar passions and habits, from pride and vanity, from envy and jealousy, from evil speaking and harsh judging. He was eminently sincere, affable, kind, and gentle; yet decided, and with a mind of his own. In the best sense of the word, he was a gentleman, not with artificial elegance of manners, yet with a good address, rendering him agreeable to refined society.

He was an Honorary Member of the Boston Numismatic Society, of the New York Numismatic and Archaeological Society, and a member of various Historical Societies; and it is understood that a memoir of him is being prepared to be read at the Pennsylvania Society. Shortly before his death, he received notice of his election as a member of the Societe Francaise de Numismatique et d'Archeologie of Paris.

He was twice married, and leaves six children.

W. E. Du Bois,
U.S. Mint, Philadelphia.

* * * * *

THE SECOND MICKLEY MEDAL

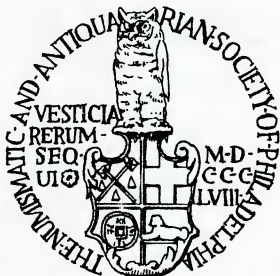
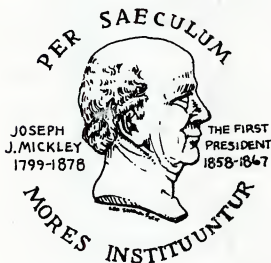
Raymond H. Williamson and Warren A. Lapp

On December 5, 1973, Raymond H. Williamson wrote to me, calling my attention to the forthcoming auction sale of International Collectors Service in Woodland Hills, California. The closing date for bids was December 15. Included in the auction sale was a Mickley medal, a restrike of an 1879 original, but a medal which Ray highly recommended as being a very nice specimen, a conversation piece, and a fascinating item of memorabilia.

The medal, listed as lot 604 in the sale, was described in the auction catalogue as follows:

"604. Extremely high relief medal honoring the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Philadelphia. Obverse bears the portrait of Joseph Mickley, its first president/reverse shows the insignia of the organization. Bronze, 8 mm. thick, Unc. in box of issue from the August C. Frank Co. of Philadelphia, 63 mm. Very large and impressive medal. Probably issued on the 100th anniversary of the organization."

An almost exact reproduction of the medal, obverse and reverse, has been drawn by Bruce H. Remick, one of P-W's staff artists, and is shown here. Bruce worked from some very inferior photographs which I made of the medal, and his drawings depict the medal far better than any photographs could possibly do.



In his letter, Ray mentioned that he had obtained a like medal at a similar auction by the same dealer back in August, 1973, at which time he had bid \$36. and had bought the medal for \$24. He was so pleased with his purchase

that as soon as he saw another medal going up for sale, he was anxious to call it to the attention of an EACer whom he felt might also be interested in owning one. In the little time left to submit a bid, I rushed off a bid of \$40. and was subsequently notified that I had purchased it for \$34.65. The second highest bid was for \$31.50. Perhaps I outbid some other EACer who was also interested in buying the piece? After all, Joseph J. Mickley was intimately associated with large cents and he was looked upon as "the patron saint of U.S. numismatists".

Since he first obtained his medal at auction, Mr. Williamson says that he has been busy, searching through past numismatic journals and writing various letters of inquiry, to obtain as much information as he could about the medal. So far, he has turned up the following facts:

The first Mickley medal was executed at the Royal Swedish Mint of Stockholm. Both the obverse and reverse dies were engraved by Lea Ahlborn, a noted Swedish female engraver and Chief Medalist of the Royal Swedish Mint. The original medals were struck in silver and first appeared in the United States early in 1879. Later, the dies for the medal were sent to the U.S. and additional medals in bronze were struck in this country for those wishing to obtain one at a price of \$2.50 each.

A second striking of the medal was done at some later date, possibly in 1958, to celebrate the hundredth anniversary of the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Philadelphia, although the exact date for re-issue of the medal has not yet been determined. This second striking is the medal which both I and Williamson have purchased. The original obverse by Lea Ahlborn was used in the striking and carries the engraver's "signature" just beneath the bust of Mickley, viz. "Lea Ahlborn, Fec." which translated means "Lea Ahlborn made it." The restruck or second medal measures $\frac{1}{2}$ inch larger in diameter than the original medal, is beautifully and professionally done in yellow bronze, and weighs over a half-pound.

Like Williamson, I share the opinion that the Mickley medal - even though we have the re-strike and not the original, is a delightful addition to one's collection. It is for this reason that the above has been put into PENNY-WISE, for undoubtedly further Mickley medals will be offered for sale or included in auctions, and as a well-informed EACer, you may want to be the next new owner! You'll like it - Ray and I feel sure you will!

* * * * *

BRUCE HARRIS

P. O. Box 215

Lumberton, N. C. 28358

WANTED!

WANTED!

WANTED!

WANTED!

I desperately need a copy of PENNY WHIMSY! Please write,
and state price!

* * * * *

There were 410 copies of PENNY-WISE No. 42 printed up for the May 15, 1974 issue. Total cost of printing and mailing for the issue came to \$632.10. We'll leave it up to each individual member to figure out the cost of each copy. Bill Parks reports that he received a total of THREE get-well cards following my notice in the last issue of his recent illness and operation. One of the three cards was from me, the Editor. Considering all the work and effort which Bill puts in to seeing that P-W gets printed up, collated, and mailed to each EAC member in time to reach you on or near the 15th of the month, I think that Bill was rather shabbily neglected. Surely, EACers could have responded better than they did. For shame! Tom Wolf has been appointed by President Herb Silberman to be chairman of the EAC activities at the ANA convention in Miami in August. Stanley Apfelbaum announced on June 18 that First Coinvestors, Inc. has affiliated itself with Fitzvale, Ltd. of London, one of the leading rare coin dealers in the United Kingdom. The newly-formed affiliation will offer investments and will conduct auctions in gold coins, U.S. silver dollars, and other rare coins in Great Britain. EAC wishes Stanley the best of luck in his new international venture. ERROR

TRENDS Magazine for January 25, 1974 carried a picture on its front cover of an 1847 large cent encased in a stainless steel ring and advertising the William A. Muller & Co. - Corporation. Sal Zambuto, an EACer from Queens in New York City, advertised some of these particular encased coins in a recent Swap & Sale column in P-W. Your Editor acquired a beauty to add to his oddity collection from Sal at the time. Jackson C. Storm has advised Herb Silberman that hotel arrangements have already been completed for EAC's annual meeting to be held in New York City sometime next February, 1975. You'll be hearing more about this later. I have received my copper one nugget embedded in pure Lucite and the pure copper anvil paperweight from Browzers in Ashland, Wisconsin (see page 148 of the May 15, 1974 P-W). I ordered them about the time the last issue appeared, and both purchases are delightful. Indeed, they are souvenirs which are well worth the price! A print of the first U.S. Mint in Philadelphia, drawn by George L. Osborn of New Orleans, has also been received (this item was described in the last issue on page 148, also) and it is equally a prize! I hope that some of the EAC members recognized the good bargains which the three items were and that you are as pleased with your orders as I am! Of similar interest this month is a copper talisman for good luck, which is offered by the Des Moines Coin and Stamp Co., P. O. Box 3601, Des Moines, Iowa 50322. The talisman is about the size of a half dollar. On one side of the piece are the letters "Rub Me", while on the other side is an impressed thumbprint. It is said that rubbing away either design is supposed to bring good luck to the owner, so the "coin" is meant to be carried in one's pocket or purse where it can easily be reached and rubbed. Cost of the "Rub Me" talisman is \$1.98, postpaid. A folder telling the history and properties of copper is enclosed with each order. President Herb Silberman had a complete set of Early Date large cents - more than 200 coins in all - on exhibit at the Metropolitan New York Numismatic Convention held at the Barbizon Plaza Hotel in New York City June 27-30. your Editor recently received a query from an ANA member who is also a Life Member of the Numismatic Literary Guild. His letterhead proclaims him to be a

numismatic historian, and he was referred to your Editor by another EAC member. The historian said that he was doing research on unusual uses for coins such as "when large cents were dropped into pickle barrels to turn the pickles green", and he asked if I could offer him any help along that particular subject. By return mail, I sent him a photocopy of the complete article I did on this subject for a 1969 issue of P-W, and I included several additional items on the same subject which I published somewhat later. I also referred him to another article which I wrote for THE NUMISMATIST. It is my feeling that he might have at least acknowledged the promptness of my reply and the extent to which I had helped him, but I guess he must be too busy with other research to respond as promptly as I did. It will be interesting to see where and when (if ever) his end result gets printed.....I'm now inclined to feel that he's a free lance writer seeking to be well paid for what most of us are happy to do for nothing, because such information helps to increase all our interests and our knowledge of coins. This whole subject was vividly recalled to memory by a letter from a Frank R. Troutman to the COIN WORLD Editor, which I saw published on page 4 of the July 3 issue of CW. Troutman was commenting on a similar request by the same numismatic historian which had been published in an earlier issue of CW. Troutman recalled an incident in the late 1950's, when large cents dated in the early 1800's, were being peddled by the canfuls in the Carolinas, each coin having a hole in its center. The story was that a large Colonial mansion on the Carolina coast had recently been razed, and it was found at the time that large cents had been used as copper washers when large squares of slate roofing had been nailed down many decades before. Troutman noted that copper washers would withstand strong winds and erosion by the elements, including the salt spray from the ocean; and, at \$1. per hundred in those days, they were probably considered a cheap and readily-obtainable construction aid - after all, one had only to stop in at his local bank and exchange some paper money for the old coppers.....Sal Zambuto has recently written your Editor about some unusual coins he has turned up recently. One is an 1847 with only 12 stars, the fourth star being missing. Jules Reiver has studied the coin and says: "It closely resembles the N-20, and it may be a late state of that variety. However, it has a heavy line extending from the base of the 1 in the date and running to the dentils..... that and the missing star makes me think this is a new variety, the 1847 N-41." However, Sal notes that Arnie Margolis, Editor of ERROR TRENDS Magazine, has a similar coin which he says has resulted from a filled die. Sal is still investigating his find and should be letting us know later what additional information he has been able to turn up. An aluminum foil pressing sent with some color photos of the coin indicate that the piece is a real nice one as well as a most interesting one.....the very latest word on the cumulative index is that it cannot possibly be ready to go to the printer's for another two months. This information is contrary to other predictions published elsewhere in this issue. There is more bad news regarding the index too - present indications are that it will be 71 pages (or 36 sheets printed both sides). Cost of printing and mailing may run the price up to \$4. per copy rather than \$2. as at first predicted. When everything is finalized, those who have previously indicated that they wanted a copy will be asked to re-subscribe and the exact price will be available for them to consider either "yes" or "no"..... and finally, we've had some flack about the possibility of 4th class mailing for P-W, and this matter is being looked into at the moment and will be announced later.

Milton B. Pfeffer

1800

The 1800 half cent was offered in uncirculated condition a surprisingly great many times. A dozen representative examples are: (1) T. Cleneay 1945 (Chapman Bros., 1890), J. G. Mills 1412 (Chapman Bros., 1904); A. W. Jackman 863 (H. Chapman, 1918); (2) L. G. Parmalee 784 (Bangs & Co., 1890); (3) R. B. Leeds 996 (H. Chapman, 1906) appearing again as NN 59th Sale 1121 (1967); (4) P. Mougey 293 (T. L. Elder, 1910) again in B. M. Mehl Sale 264 (1939); (5) E. Gilbert 66 (T. L. Elder, 1910); (6) G. H. Earles 3614 (H. Chapman, 1912); (7) F. R. Alvord 73 (S. H. Chapman, 1924); (8) Anderson-Dupont 1065 (Stack's, 1964) MS65; (9) H. Ryder 281 (NN 44th Sale, 1954); (10) M. A. Holmes 1288 (Stack's, 1960); (11) J. Brobston (Stack's, 1963); (12) R. L. Miles, Jr. 12 (Stack's, 1969).

Uncirculated specimens have also appeared in the following sales, among others: W. Van Roden (1968); G. O. Walton (1963); Terrell (1973); C. Jay (1967); G. F. Scanlon (1973); S. W. Freeman (1958); H. P. Smith (5/1906); J. D. Sweyd (1963); R. E. Cox (Stack's, 1962); W. H. Woodin (1911); F. Baldenhofer (1955); G. M. Parsons (1914); B. E. Roach (1944); Dr. J. M. Henderson (1921); J.N.T. Levick (1895); W. E. Woodward (1867); J. C. Randall (1868); R. B. Winsor (1895); R. A. Arnel (1967); D. S. Wilson (1907); Helfenstein-Judd (1968); Dr. G. P. French (1917); and Major R. Lambert (1910).

Some specimens show small rim breaks or crumbling over LIB (Ryder, Anderson-Dupont, Merkin 104 (3/1968), and Leeds). The example which was sold in the NN 56th Sale (1962), lot 421, had rim breaks from LIB down to the level of the hair knot. In addition, the same coin exhibited a reverse break between the E and C of CENT. There are two other breaks which are mentioned: (1) Prof. M. S. Read 1798 (T. L. Elder, 1921) graded G, the break said to be at the curl, near the numeral 1; and (2) U.S. Coin Co., Sale of June 20, 1917, lot 98, graded EF but "bronzed", the break said to be at the wreath. The first of these two cracks was described by Gilbert, but the second is questionable.

Sometimes, double impressions may be found (Ryder), and occasionally the R in LIBERTY is partly "unfinished" or filled (the Brobston VF specimen).

Many of the catalogue descriptions emphasize color. The Milton A. Holmes coin is described as "fully a blazing Mint red". After that, the colors range downward to coal-black. The Chapmans said that the Cleneay-Mills-Jackman coin was the finest they knew of. This might be different today, in view of the large number of uncirculated specimens now known. The NN 54th Sale catalogue mentions that about forty 1800 half cents were found in the so-called "Boston hoard" in the early 1930's, and it adds that "most of these were spotty or otherwise not too desirable".

There appear to be no uncirculated specimens of this variety although, at one time, two coins tried to pass as such: (1) P. Mougey 294 (T. L. Elder, 1910) was called Unc, but when it re-appeared as A. W. Jackman 866 (H. Chapman, 1918) it was graded EF; (2) L. G. Parmalee 753 (Bangs & Co., 1890) was graded as EF, but when it re-appeared as E. W. Ropes 428 (Bangs & Co., 1893) it was inexplicably graded Unc. The pedigree of the Ropes coin is from marginal notes in the ANS copy of the Ropes catalogue.

Other EF grades: (3) M. A. Holmes 1290 (Stack's, 1960); (4) J. Brobston (Stack's, 1963), R. L. Miles, Jr. 13 (Stack's, 1969).

VF grades: (5) Miller Coll. 508 (Hesslein, 4/12/1916), H. Ryder 283 (NN 44th Sale, 1954) VF25; (6) Dr. G. P. French 358 (U.S. Coin Co., 1917), L. G. Lahrman 61 (A. Kosoff, 1963) VF20, said there to be ex-Dr. French and T. J. Clarke; (7) "World's Greatest Collection" 344 (Numismatic Galleries, 1945); (8) C. M. Williams 693 (Numismatic Galleries 1950), Dr. C. L. Ruby 222 (Superior, Part I, 1974) downgraded to F; (9) Anderson-Dupont 1067 (Stack's, 1954); (10) Davis-Graves 90 (Stack's, 1954); (11) NN 57th Sale 4 (1963); (12) S. W. Wolfson 7 (Stack's, 1963); (13) NN 61st Sale 4 (1970); (14) A-Mark (12/1972); (15) Bowers and Ruddy, Rare Coin Review No. 18 (1973).

F grades: (16) T. Cleaneay 1946 (Chapman Bros., 1890); (17) H. P. Smith Dup. 584 (Chapman Bros., 1906), NN 59th Sale 1123 (1967); (18) F. R. Alvord 76 (S. H. Chapman, 1924) graded VG, thereafter sold to H. Ryder as F through Wayte Raymond auction of 2/18/47, lot 48 (apparently not the same coin as the Ryder 283 which was sold as VF in the NN 44th Sale), appearing again as Dr. C. L. Ruby 217 (Superior, Part I, 1974) F; (19) W. W. Neil 2212 (B. M. Mehl, 1947), appearing again as R. T. McPherson 23 (Stack's, 1953) and graded as VF; (20) 1955 MANA Convention Sale 29 (Associate Coin Auctions), reverse center bold, which is unusual; (21) J. D. Sweyd 70 (A. Kosoff, 1963) F15; (22) Century Sale 66 (Paramount, 1965); (23) C. R. Bartlett 88 (Stack's, 1966); (24), (25), (26), (27), (28) Dr. C. L. Ruby 216, 218, 219, 220 ex C Douglas Smith, "almost" VF, and 221 ex B. Bluestone 2/1946 "Nearly" VF; (29) Winter Collection 1045 (Stack's, Jan-Feb., 1974).

Until the Ruby Sale, the cataloguers did not pay much attention to a description of the die states, except that here and there "early state" would be referred to (Ryder, Anderson-Dupont), without further specification. The Ruby catalogue detailed the early state as showing no cracks or rusting. Gradually, die chips appear between IB, and rusting of the die at ATES and around the date and inscriptions. Later, a crack shows through ATES, rusting is more severe, and the dentils start to crumble on both sides.

A reverse center weakness is usual (Williams-Ruby 222, Dr. French, Anderson-Dupont). A strong central reverse is not uncommon (1955 MANA and Merkin 94, 6/1972 Sale).

Overstrikes are known. Sweyd and Anderson-Dupont are struck on large cent flans, and Alvord 78 is struck on some unidentified planchet, with "ST of another coin" appearing within the wreath.

Despite the reputation of this variety for poor looking specimens, there are some well-struck, handsome pieces (Holmes, Ryder 283, Brobston-Miles, Mougey-Jackman, and Parmalee-Ropes). Once again, jet-black examples exist (Cleneay and Century).

1802 G-2, CMM #1

The discover piece is W. B. Guy 915 (H. Chapman, 1911) graded VG. It appeared again as H. Ryder 282 (NN 44th Sale, 1954) now graded F12 and said to be struck on a poor flan and mis-handled.

I found six other coins: (1) F. R. Alvord 80 (S. H. Chapman, 1924), W. W. Neil 2213 (B. M. Mehl, 1947), J. Brobston (Stack's, 1960), Century Sale 67 (Paramount, 1967) graded VG in the Alvord Sale and F in the Brobston Sale (2) J. C. Morgenthau 278th Sale 510 (1932) "very fair"; (3) J. C. Morgenthau 368th Sale 434 (1936) VG; (4) Anderson-Dupont 1066 (Stack's, 1954) F12; (5) ANA 1965 Sale 2 (Al. C. Overton) graded G-VG over Fair; (6) R. S. Cohen, Jr. FPL No. 1 (1972) G6.

The Anderson-Dupont specimen was said to duplicate the Ryder coin in sharpness, color, weakness of striking, and mis-handling. Some examples of this variety are clearly overstrikes (Alvord 80-Neil-Brobston-Century and Cohen).

The Overton catalogue notes "diagnostic" die break from wreath to E in UNITED. This is the only reference to a die break that I found. If this break really exists, it may be the same as on the 1800 U.S. Coin Co. lot 98, Sale of June 20, 1917, where a reverse break of this die was said to exist "on wreath". This is speculative.

This variety is rare, it seems, but not good-looking.

1803 G-1, CMM #4

Uncirculated grades: (1) Dr. G. P. French 359 (U.S. Coin Co., 1917); (2) F. R. Alvord 81 (S. H. Chapman, 1924); (3) Anderson-Dupont 1069 (Stack's, 1954); (4) J. Brobston (Stack's, 1963); (5) L. Merkin 106 (3/1968).

EF grades: (6) C. M. Williams 695 (Numismatic Galleries, 1950) EF40.

VF grades: (7) A. R. Turini 201 (Stack's, 1972); (8) Stack's 1046 (Jan.-Feb., 1974 Sale) ex R. S. Cohen, Jr. (1972).

F grades: (9) F. Baldenhofer 84 (Stack's, 1955); (10) L. Merkin 43 (9/1968); (11) Coins & Currency, Inc. 1422 (5/1970).

Merkin 106 was said to be the finest known, and this catalogue added that one other MS specimen was known, but that it was scratched. The Brobston catalogue also described its specimen as "one of the finest known, if not the finest".

It is evident that weak strikes are a problem with this variety. The

Uncirculated Markin 106 is not fully struck up; and the obverse of the Anderson-Dupont coin, also Uncirculated, is weak. In addition, weakness was described in the case of the Turini coin (central obverse).

David Proskey, in the COIN COLLECTOR'S JOURNAL for 1880, page 183, said of the obverse die for the 1803 G-1: "Same obverse as that of the 1802 half cent, but all traces of the 2 and the surrounding 0 have been removed". This may have been the basis for the assertion by some cataloguers that there are 1803 over 2 overstrikes (S. H. Chapman Sale of October, 1919, lot 1185; and T. L. Elder sales of October, 1907, lot 101, and December, 1906, lot 169).

1803 G-2, CMM #1

The early cataloguers made very little effort to differentiate the varieties of 1803. Where descriptions have been given, they almost always lack the detail necessary for attribution. As a result, most of the higher grade coins appearing in the early sales, being unattributed and not attributable, must be ignored.

Uncirculated grades: (1) T. L. Elder 168 (12/6/1906), downgraded to AU50 in NN 59th Sale 1124 (1967); (2) H. C. Miller 1036 (T. L. Elder, 1917); (3) U.S. Coin Co. 481 (2/6/1918); (4) F. R. Alvord 83 (S. H. Chapman, 1924); (5) S. H. McVitty 11 (B. M. Mehl, 1938); (6) W. B. Hale 266 (B. M. Mehl, 1939); (7) W. C. Atwater 134 (B. M. Mehl, 1946); (8) Anderson-Dupont 1070 (Stack's, 1954); (9) 1955 MANA Convention Sale 30 (Associated Coin Auction) "just about" MS60; (10) T. J. Clarke 452 (A. Kosoff, 1956); (11) Metropolitan New York Numismatic Convention 173 (Stack's, 1962); (12) J. Brobston (Stack's, 1963); (13) "Million Dollar Auction" 4 (Federal Brand, 1963); (14) L. Merkin 107 (3/1968); (15) R. L. Miles, Jr. 14 (Stack's, 1969); (16) G. V. Nelson 3 (Stack's, 2/5/1971).

AU grades: (17) Anderson Galleries 397 (5/26/1919); (18) R. E. Cox 173 (Stack's, 1962); (19) NN 56th Sale 422 (1962).

EF grades: (20) Dr. D. W. Valentine 482 (T. L. Elder, 1927); (21) Dr. D. W. Valentine 483 (T. L. Elder, 1927); (22) L. Merkin 44 (9/1968); (23) Million Dollar Sale 782 (Harmer Rooke, 1969); (24) ANA 1973 Sale 1690 (Jess Peters, 1973).

The Merkin 107 catalogue described, in 1968, that particular coin as "one of possibly nine Uncirculated specimens".

Weak strikes often appear, as with the preceding variety. The Brobston coin was described in the catalogue as "Flatly struck on the obverse and correspondingly on the reverse (practically all known specimens are similarly struck)." The NN 56th Sale catalogue says of the example offered therein: "softly struck at top of hair, as usually seen on these". The Merkin 107 catalogue relates the weakness to die breaks: "Softly struck up in the centers, as normal with the later die states of this variety". Not all specimens exhibit weakness, however.

With one or two exceptions, the cataloguers seemed to take little interest in die breaks, except to mention the existence of a reverse break. The progression or course of the break was not detailed. In the catalogue of the Dr. Charles L. Ruby Sale, Part I, (1974), it is said under lot 227 that the cracked reverse is scarce.

In Stack's sale of the George V. Nelson coin (1971), the obverse is said to be "slightly bulged". This is the only report of a bulge which I have for this variety, and it may have been peculiar to that particular specimen. There are no other reports of a bulge, even though the same obverse die was used later (G-4, CMM #2 and G-1, CMM #4).

1803 G-3, CMM #3

Uncirculated grades: (1) T. Cleneay 1947 (Chapman Bros., 1890) appearing again as P. Mougey 295 (T. L. Elder, 1910); (2) R. B. Winsor 1019 (Chapman Bros., 1895), A. W. Jackman 868 (H. Chapman, 1918); (3) H. P. Smith Duplicate 586 (Chapman Bros., 6/1906), NN 59th Sale 1125 (1967); (4) C. S. Bement 419 (H. Chapman, 1916); (5) Dr. G. P. French 361 (U.S. Coin Co., 1917); (6) T. L. Elder 2315 (5/1923); (7) F. R. Alvord 88 (S. H. Chapman, 1924), H. Ryder 284 (NN 44th Sale, 1967); (8) Anderson-Dupont 1803 (Stack's, 1954); (9) Davis-Graves 9 (Stack's, 1954); (10) J. Brobston (Stack's, 1963); (11) L. Merkin 101 (3/1967); (12) W. Van Roden 113 (Stack's, 1968). The Harlan P. Smith duplicate, the Alvord-Ryder specimen, and the Anderson-Dupont coin were each graded MS60.

AU grades: (13) J. S. Jenks 6251 (H. Chapman, 1921); (14) L. G. Lahrman 62 (A. Kosoff, 1963); (15) L. Merkin 602 (3/1969, scratched); (16) NN 61st Sale 115 (1970, AU50).

EF grades: (17) T. L. Elder 2716 (6/1932); (18) C. M. Williams 698 (Numismatic Galleries, 1960), EF40.

The Brobston and French specimens were struck from perfect dies. There is no doubt that the reverse die was the first to crack, since it is found broken with the obverse unbroken (Van Roden coin and coin in NN 61st Sale). The H. P. Smith duplicate coin shows both dies cracked, as do many other specimens.

The bulge over 18 on the obverse may have preceded even the reverse break, since examples of this variety are sometimes said to show the bulge, and no mention is made of any die breaks (Alvord 87 and Jenks). The terminal state of the dies has the bulge broken out over 18 (Alvord 92), with all the obverse and reverse breaks. The Gilhausen 5 (Superior, 1973) also refers to clash marks and summarizes the late state as "bulged, clashed, and cracked". Perfect die specimens are uncommon, as are examples where the bulge over 18 is broken out. F. R. Alvord was so taken with the die states of this variety that his collection had seven examples, more than any other variety.

There is frequent mention of a weakness in the striking of the leaves at the top of the wreath. The Merk 101 catalogue says that this was caused by the reverse break. In the Bement catalogue, Henry Chapman says the weakness is caused "as the metal had gone into the bust of Liberty on the obverse".

Porosity exists (the Brobston VF example; and also the VF Rarcoa 1056 sold at the Florida United Numismatists' Convention in 1973), but it is not frequent. The Rarcoa coin is another example where the reverse is not fully struck up.

1803 G-4, CMM #2

AU grades: (1) J. Brobston (Stack's, 1963).

VF grades: (2) F. R. Alvord 93 (S. H. Chapman, 1924); (3) Coins & Currency, Inc. 1421 (5/1970).

F grades: (4) Comm. W. C. Eaton 1014 (H. Chapman, 1929); (5) W. W. Neil 2217 (B. M. Mehl, 1947); (6) Dr. C. W. Green 2587 (B. M. Mehl, 1949); (7) Anderson-Dupont 1071 (Stack's, 1954); (8) J. Brobston (Stack's, 1963), a second example, appearing again in R. S. Cohen, Jr. FPL No. 1 (1972), his second example also, and downgraded to VG8; (9) L. Merkin 45 (9/1968); (10) R. S. Cohen, Jr. FPL No. 1 (1972) F12, his first example.

VG grades: (11) Prof. M. S. Read 1805 (T. L. Elder, 1921); (12) Dr. D. W. Valentine 485 (T. L. Elder, 1927); (13) Comm. W. C. Eaton 1013 (H. Chapman, 1929); (14) Dr. C. L. Ruby 229 (Superior, Part I, 1974).

The Brobston AU coin, described as "just a shade from Uncirculated", is said to be probably the finest known of this variety and to be lustrous, proof-like, with iridescent steel and Mint red. After that, the quality of the specimens falls sharply. Roger S. Cohen, Jr. described his VG8 as "a very ygly coin but a very rare (reverse) die state". The Anderson-Dupont specimen has a heavy rim break over STAT, as does the Brobston F coin. Obverse incusation marks are sometimes seen (Alvord 95).

One must consider the possibility that specimens from perfect dies are rarer than from broken dies.

(To be continued.)

* * * * *

BRUCE HARRIS

P. O. Box 215

Lumberton, N. C. 28358

I have four Colonial coins which I believe to be electrotypes. I would appreciate someone else's opinion, and will be happy to trade them for an Early Date large cent. Please write.

* * * * *

Keep SMILING - people will wonder what you've been up to.

Die Ratte Finque.

SWAPS & SALES

ATTENTION!!! BEGINNERS AND BUDGET COLLECTORS!!!

The following coins are FOR SALE to those needing hole fillers or to those on a tight budget.....as who isn't? This is a one-time sale. Hurry! as they won't last too long!!

S-24	2/0	\$10.	S-77	15 holed	\$15.	S-224	3	\$5.
S-25	2/3	18.	S-78	3/2	14.	S-224	4/2	4.50
S-26	2/2	12.	S-91	2/1	12.	S-228	3	7.50
S-28	3/2	17.	S-97	3/2 pitted	20.	S-229	6 pitted	10.
S-31	3	20.	S-111	2/1	14.	S-232	7/5	10.
S-44	7/5 dam.	20.	S-120a	Bad	6.	S-240	Bent	4.50
S-49	3/2	16.	S-120b	3	7.50	S-242	1/4 pit.	2.
S-54	3/2	17.	S-121	3/1	6.	S-250	3/4 green	7.
S-56	2/1	13.	S-131	4	17.50	S-253	4/3	6.
S-57	4/2	18.	S-151	7	28.	S-258	Bent	3.
S-58	3 pit.	18.	S-155	3	13.	S-260	4/3 edg.dam.	6.
S-67	5 pit.	24.	S-159	7/5 corr.	11.	S-261	2 nice diebk.	4.
S-69	Holed	10.	S-196	1/0	2.	S-267	4	7.
S-69	3/0	17.	S-199	6	14.	S-269	2	3.50
S-74	5/3	46.	S-208	2/1	4.50			
S-75	5/4	40.	S-209	2/5 pitted	6.			
							Blank plan type 1816-43 nicked & bent	10.

BOB MILLER - NUMISMATIC SERVICE

P. O. Box 482

Saddle Brook, New Jersey 07662

* * * * *

JAN EDEBURN

4043A Elm Street

Shaw AFB, S. C. 29152

FOR SALE: - large cents. All with nice surfaces unless noted.

1798	S-181	VG10	brn & steel	\$23.	1831	N-6	VG8 med.brn,edge ding	\$6.
1816	N-8	VG8	med.brn.	8.		N-7	VG10 dk.brn,swld.die	8.
1819	N-2	G6	med.brn.	6.	1833	N-6	VG10 med.brn.	7.
1820	N-7	VG10	dk.brn.	8.	1838	-	VG8 med.brn,sl.por.	6.
1821	N-1	G5	med.brn, few minor surf. nicks	10.	1840	N-2	F12 tan & brn.	9.
1822	N-10	VF20	med.brn.	19.	1841	-	VG10 tan, scrc date	8.
1825	N-4	VG8	dk.brn., nice	7.	1842	-	F18 tan & lt.brn.	13.
1826	N-4	G6	tan	7.	1843	-	VG8 med.brn.	6.
		VG10	lt.brn.	8.		-	G6 C/S CLARK obv.	5.
1827	N-11	F12	dk.brn & steel	9.	1844	-	VF25 Oliv.brn, few nicks	14.
1830	N-4	VG8	dk.brn.	6.	1848	-	F12 C/S C.BROOKS	
		VF25	med.brn.	18.	1851	-	recolrd.	4.
					1856	-	F18 lt.brn.	7.
						-	F12 lt.brn.	6.

* * * * *

ROD BURRESS

9743 Leacrest

Cincinnati, Ohio 45215

For Sale or Trade: Complete sets of PENNY-WISE by photocopy.
Proportionate prices for partial sets or single issues. Will accept large cents
in trade. Write for details.

* * * * *

URGENTLY WANTED - LARGE CENT LITERATURE

Auction Catalogues
Monographs
Reference Works

The above reference material is urgently needed for the completion of my personal library. Kindly send me a listing of those catalogues, books, etc. that you have available.

* * * * *

MAX DRAISNER

137 Eighth Avenue

New York, NY 10011

Telephone: (212) 675-1311

WANTED: Choice U.S. and foreign Patterns and coins

* * * * *

* BUYING UNITED STATES HALF CENTS AND LARGE CENTS *
* HIGHEST PRICES PAID *

We have a great need for better grade Early and Late Date large cents and half cents. Proper attributions and grading necessary. Please bear in mind that we are dealers and that the coins are for resale. You may ship directly to us for our offer or to our bank. Write for details concerning the latter method.

FIRST COINVESTORS, INC.
200 I. U. Willets Road
Albertson, New York 11507

* * * * *

* FLORIDA MATERIAL :::: BUY/TRADE *

Have over 1300 different Florida trade tokens, store cards, coupons, chits, mirror cards, political items, transportation tokens, wooden nickels. Buy singles and lots. Or trade U.S. Lg ¢. If it reads "Florida", am interested.

ALLEN CORSON, BOX 261, LR STA., MIAMI, FL 33138 EAC #155; LM/ANA

* * * * *

<u>1793</u>		<u>1794</u>	
S-3	G5 even brown	550.	S-68 F12 but rough 225.
S-5	VG8 even brown	475.	S-69 XF40, superb CS, old
S-7	6/10 ex Naftzger	800.	obverse dents 150.
S-8	VG7	425.	S-70 25/30 smooth brown 450.
S-9	F12, rough	290.	S-71 VF35 nice 500.
S-11a	F15 nice brown, few handling marks	650.	<u>1795</u>
S-11b	5/2	250.	S-73 10, rough, nice color 175.
S-12	VG8 excellent CS	1750.	S-75 VG8, nice 100.
S-13	7/2 smooth brown	475.	S-74 F12, very pretty 150.
S-15	G4 attractive, ex NN, Paschal	4000.	S-76a F15, few small dents 195.
S-16	8/3 smooth brown	1250.	S-76b VG10 65.
<u>1794</u>			S-77 VF20, some roughness but attractive, overall 12+ 140.
S-18b	brown VG10, few pits	325.	S-78 AU50 ex Sartoris 1000.
S-19a	G4 "HD" edge	550.	S-79 G5 ex Paschal POR
S-19b	VG8 nice	450.	S-80 10/5 POR
S-20	8/4 attractive	300.	<u>1796</u>
S-20	F12 Masters, nice brn	550.	NC3 VG7, even, attractive 600.
S-20	8/15	550.	S-81 VF20+ Perfect! 350.
S-21	VF25	350.	S-82 F18 planchet clip 300.
S-24	VF30+two-tone brown	500.	S-83 40 sharpness, dark, some roughness 200.
S-26	5/10	50.	S-83 VG10 smooth brown 135.
S-27	20 sharpness, finely gran, dark, but nice	750.	S-84 F12 " " 125.
S-30	VF20/25	350.	S-85 50 sharpness, couple rim dents, beautiful color & surface, overall 40 1200.
S-32	VG8 ex Blaisdell	60.	S-86 VF20 Ruby cc5 680.
S-34	VG7, some corr'n	450.	S-87 F12 nice 125.
S-37	VG7 attractive!	3500.	S-88 F12 recolored, not bad 100.
S-39	F15 corr'n, rim dent	600.	S-89 VF20 very difficult in this grade 395.
S-39	F12 but granular	450.	S-91 VG7 45.
S-40	VF20 rough "HD" edge	600.	S-92 20 but dark, granular 125.
S-41	VF30 no breaks	575.	S-93 F12 110.
S-42	VF25 Hays, edge with Maris #	450.	S-94 F12 superb cc6 550.
S-43	20 but very rough	40.	S-96 F12 superb cc2-3 3000.
S-46	20, lightly granular	65.	S-97 8/12 95.
S-47	G4	35.	S-98 F12 nice 160.
S-52	Attractive 10, Adams	950.	S-101 VF35 superb cc4 650.
S-53	even VG8, ex Paschal	1100.	S-102 25, granular but nice 115.
S-54	F15 but pitted	40.	S-103 12 but rough 80.
S-55	just about XF40	750.	S-104 VG8 pretty 125.
S-56	VF30 nice	500.	S-105 VG7 nice 300.
S-57	F12	110.	S-108 VF30 superb cc5 475.
S-58	20, plan. clip, nice	225.	S-110 10, dark, slightly gran 55.
S-59	VG7	60.	S-111 overall VG7 95.
S-61	30, lightly granular	165.	S-112 VF25 nice 525.
S-63	F18, light brown, nice	275.	S-113 12, dark, nice for this variety 250.
S-64	10/5 pretty	124.	
S-67	F15 two-tone brown	200.	

<u>1796</u>		<u>1798</u>	
S-114 VF25 superb cc6	475.	S-167 VF35 terminal state	275.
S-116 VF25 few pits	250.	S-168 VG10	35.
S-117 VG10	350.	S-169 20/25 nice	200.
S-118 VG8, color & surface of a 30 coin!	400.	S-172 VF30 very choice	195.
S-118 Fr2	50.	S-173 VF35 superb strike	300.
S-119 VG8 unusually pretty	115.	S-175 VF20/25 nice	200.
<u>1797</u>		S-176 VF30 exceptional cc3	550.
S-120a VG8 nice CS	50.	S-181 20/25	175.
S-120b F12	65.	S-182 VF20 superb, perfect cc6 ex Naftzger	400.
S-121a 6/2 attractive	650.	S-184 VF35 fantastic CS	300.
S-121b VF25 nice	250.	S-185 VF25 nice	175.
S-123 25 lightly granular	125.	<u>1800</u>	
S-125 VG7 late die state	350.	S-190 VF20 nice CS	175.
S-126 12/10 nice	45.	S-190 F15	85.
S-131 F12	120.	S-191 VF20 lite scr	140.
S-132 F12 some problems, overall VG7 or 8	200.	S-192 VF30	300.
S-133 F12 granular	125.	S-193 20, gran., Masters	58.
S-134 F12 pretty	75.	S-197 VF25	175.
S-136 25/20 perfect	150.	S-199 F12 nice	125.
S-138 overall VG8	25.	S-200 VF30 cc6	375.
S-139 VF35	350.	S-202 VG8	30.
S-140 VF25 unusually pretty	225.	S-203 20/25 nice	175.
S-141 VF20 very tough this grade	350.	S-204 6/10	50.
S-142 F12 cc5	350.	S-205 F12	60.
S-143 25 sharpness, scratches	350.	S-206 VF25 choice CS	200.
<u>1798</u>		S-208 sharpness 40, gossimer porosity, so 20+ cc5	300.
S-144 7/15 reverse FW plate, ex Proskey, Hines, WHS	475.	S-209 F12	48.
S-145 overall 10 or 12	40.	S-209 Vfr3	7.
S-146 30 sharpness, but dark and rough	190.	S-210 VG10 nice	495.
S-147 VG8 Hines, WHS	125.	S-211 VF25 superb	300.
S-148 30/35 superb	325.	S-212 VF30 ex Williams, Gaskill, Paschal, Adams	300.
S-151 VG8	60.	<u>1801</u>	
S-151 VG7 terminal die state	50.	S-213 G5 smooth brown	12.
S-152 15, some roughness	55.	S-214 VG10	50.
S-153 F12, some marks	35.	NC1 VG7 attractive	425.
S-158 20/25 nice	175.	S-215 20 but quite rough	100.
S-159 F12+	65.	S-216 40, weak strike, nice	250.
S-160 VF30 superb cc6	450.	S-218 very attractive VG8	500.
S-162 VF25, exceptionally attractive & nearly impossible this grade	300.	S-220 7/10	40.
S-163 VF20 cc2	450.	S-221 VG10	40.
S-165 VF30+ cc2 Naftzger	650.	S-222 25/30 beautiful CS	200.
S-166 30 weak strike, unusually pretty	200.	S-223 VF25+ superb	250.
		S-224 VF30 superb	165.
		<u>1802</u>	
		S-225 VF30	220.
		S-227 VF30 superb CS	225.
		S-228 20, rough	25.

1802

S-230	30 exceptional CS	200.
S-231	VF25	150.
S-232	VF25	150.
S-233	VF30 superb ex CDS	275.
S-234	12/15 attractive	100.
S-236	VF35 superb ex CDS	250.
S-237	Sharpness of MS60 but dark. However, very attractive.	500.
S-239	30 to 35 superb	250.
S-240	VF25 buce CS	350.
S-241	Just about XF40	350.
S-242	VG10 attractive	25.

1803

S-243	VF30 gorgeous	250.
S-245	VF35 "	250.
S-246	VF30+ cc6	300.
S-250	VF35	250.
S-252	VG8	18.
S-243	VF30 gorgeous	250.
S-245	VF35 "	250.
S-246	VF30+ cc6	300.
S-250	VF35	250.
S-252	VG8	18.
S-253	VF30 perfect	165.
S-254	VF20, rough	30.
S-255	VF35 superb	225.
S-256	VF30+	210.
S-257	VF30+	175.
S-258	VF35+ unusually pretty	250.
S-262	F15 nice	100.
S-263	20, many marks	55.
S-265	F12	175.

1805-7

S-267	VF30+ very choice CS, ex Exman	185.
S-268	VF25 nice!	300.
S-269	VF35 superb	200.
S-270	VF30	250.
S-271	VF25 excellent CS	250.
S-271	F18 Hines, Blaisdell	125.
S-274	30/35 French, T.J.Clarke, Naftzger	295.
S-275	VF30+ beautiful mottled coloring, ex Newcombe	275.
S-275	40 sharpness, lite scr on obv, very slight rev corrn, still attractive	175.
S-276	VF25, ex Davis-Graves, CDS; very pretty	150.

1808-14

S-277	20, slight roughness but attractive	100.
S-279	F12 smooth brown	45.
S-280	G6 but weak date	15.
S-281	VF35 couple old, almost invisible scrs, nice	150.
S-282	F15 nice	75.
S-284	VF30 but weak strike	125.
S-286	12, granular but not bad, overall 8+	75.
S-290	VF20+ excellent CS	125.
S-291	VG10	35.
S-291	VF35 incredibly perfect	275.
S-292	VF35+ superb	400.
S-293	VF20+ beautiful CS	175.
1816	N-9 VF25 pretty	25.
1817	N-10 VF25 perfect	35.
	N-15 F15 nice	15.
1830	N-6 Small Letters VG10	20.
1837	N-2 VG7, rim dent	6.
	N-5 XF40 nice	40.

Additional Early Dates:

1794	S-22 VF20	225.
1794	S-65 10/5 nice	75.
1796	S-81 10/4 nice	45.
1797	S-138 just about AU50	650.
1794	S-38 VF30	2500.
1794	S-36 20 but rough, over- all about VG8	300.

Dear Fellow EAC'ers,

Most of these coins are from the Denis Loring collection. With few exceptions, the coins are unusually nice for the grade, i.e., the color and surfaces are often more attractive than would normally be expected for the given numerical grade. Original envelopes are included with most coins. In addition, I think you will find the grading to your liking. Will trade for colonials, bust dollars, Unc bust halves, or early gold. If you have second choices, please state them.

FOR SALE: Large Cents (*)

S-75	10	\$75.	S-152	5	\$22.	S-225	20	\$40.
S-88	12	100.	S-153A	8	35.	S-228	20	75.
S-103	7	100.	S-155A	8	55.	S-234	15	75.
S-107A	5	350.	S-157	7	20.	S-236	20	50.
S-115A	3	25.	S-167	12	24.	S-239	20	50.
S-116	7	135.	S-176	12	50.	S-241	10	20.
S-120b	15	160.	S-178A	6	400.	S-242	7	10.
S-122A	3	125.	S-190	12	50.	S-243	10	25.
S-128	20	60.	S-194	20	55.	S-244	40-	155.
S-131	10	80.	S-201	6	50.	S-246	30	125.
S-132	8	150.	S-208A	10	40.	S-249	4	40.
S-134	10	40.	S-220	25-	75.	S-251	20+	75.
S-135	15/12	70.	S-221	8	40.	S-256	20	50.
S-138	10	25.	S-222A	7	50.	S-261A	10	30.
S-139	25	100.	S-223	30	150.	S-262	12	75.
S-140A	15	60.	S-224	15	25.	S-265	50	850.
S-151A	8	28.	S-224A	4	25.	S-288	30	125.

A - indicates very late or terminal die state

19N8	6	\$ 5.	34N4	15	\$15.	43N5	30	\$30.
20N1	7	8.	37N10	45	45.	43N6a	50	80.
23N1	20	100.	39N3	30	30.	48N2	55	50.
23N2	7	20.	39N9	35	40.	50	35	12.
24N3	12	12.	39N14	5	10.	51N1	55	80.
26N1	15	10.	42N2	55	80.	51N3	55	100.
32N1	7	8.						

Trade: S-124 F15 available for trade involving census level S-125 or S-198.

* - A detailed listing is available upon request